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Dollar Continues Plunge; U.S. Says It Has No Target

By Ferdinand Protzman
International Herald Tribune

Austrian Parties Form Coalition

VIENNA (AP) — The Socialists and the conservative People's Party agreed Wednesday to join in a "grand coalition." Chancellor Franz Vranitzky announced the decision followed more than eight weeks of negotiations between Austria's two largest parties, after elections on Nov. 23 left neither party strong enough to govern alone.

CBS Elects Officers

NEW YORK (AP) — The board of CBS Inc. unanimously elected William S. Paley on Wednesday as chairman and Laurence A. Tisch as president and chief executive. Both men had held the titles on an acting basis since September.

INSIDE TODAY



No, it's no flake, but a computer simulation of a snowflake — part of science's attempt to understand nature's winter riddle. Science, Page 7.

GENERAL NEWS

Iran said it has opened a new war front against Iraq. Page 2.
The U.S. Supreme Court upheld a law providing pregnancy leave for workers. Page 3.

BUSINESS/FINANCE

U.S. retail sales, aided by auto sales and Christmas shopping, rose a near-record 4.4 percent in December. Page 9.
The U.S. Supreme Court allowed national banks to establish discount securities brokerage outlets. Page 9.

Strains Raise New Concern About Reagan

By Martin Tolchin
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Congressional leaders long concerned about what they consider President Ronald Reagan's inattention to detail say their concerns have been heightened in recent meetings with him at the White House.

The leaders, among them some of Mr. Reagan's political allies, note the strains on Mr. Reagan both from the crisis over arms sales to Iran and from recent presidential illnesses and surgery.

They mention the tensions generated by the Republican loss of the Senate in November, after Mr. Reagan had invested much of his time and prestige last fall trying to retain control. They also cite his status as a lame duck, which they say has emboldened some on Capitol Hill to declare open season on a managerial style that had served the president well.

Some say these new tensions merely exacerbated Mr. Reagan's long-established tendency to ignore the nuts and bolts of government. They stress that this has nothing to do with his age — the president will turn 76 next month — but is rather a reflection of a leadership style that has been evident since his days as governor of California.

His supporters argue that his ability to focus on broad objectives and not get bogged down in details has been one of his strengths as a leader. But now many politicians, including some Reagan allies, are not only more openly questioning the president's mastery of the fine points, they also are wondering if he comprehends some broader issues, at a time when perilous issues have emerged.

Shortly before Christmas, for instance, Mr. Reagan invited about 20 Republican congressional leaders to provide "input" into his State of the Union message.

Many of them left dismayed. See REAGAN, Page 6.



Bob Deen/The Associated Press

Near the Tower of London, a befeater strolls in a heavy snowstorm. In Venice, snow covered the gondolas. And in Paris, which was blanketed by snow, a motorist gets a helpful push from passers-by near the Eiffel Tower.

Michael Ochs/The Associated Press

France Calls Out Troops to Clear Snow

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — France called out the army on Wednesday to help the country dig out of heavy snow, as freezing temperatures that have caused at least 130 deaths across Europe continued.

Road and rail transport remained disrupted by some of the worst winter weather in 25 years, and driving and walking in cities throughout Europe was hazardous. More people died, mainly on perilous roads, and some were found frozen to death.

The biggest death toll, 77, was in the Soviet Union, which is experiencing its worst January since 1950.

France reported five deaths on Wednesday, for a total of 14 since the cold wave began over the weekend. Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, who is also mayor of Paris, mobilized army troops to help clear the 5.5 inches (14 centimeters) of snow that fell on the French capital, the fourth heaviest on record.

The cold snap followed strikes in France by transport and utility workers that had brought power cuts to homes and businesses and disruption to commuters and travelers.

President Francois Mitterrand appealed to the army to help in efforts to feed and shelter the homeless. Some Metro stations in Paris were left open Tuesday night for the city's homeless.

Temperatures were about minus 10 degrees centigrade (14 degrees Fahrenheit) while winds up to 75 mph (120 kph) piled up snow drifts in the southwest, where 15 inches of snow fell since Tuesday afternoon.



Bob Deen/The Associated Press



Michael Ochs/The Associated Press

Reagan Ordered Secret CIA Aid For Contras

By Boh Woodward
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — President Ronald Reagan signed a top secret intelligence order on Jan. 9, 1986, authorizing the Central Intelligence Agency to provide intelligence, training and communications equipment to the Nicaraguan rebels, according to administration and congressional sources.

Under the Reagan order, known as a "finding," a total of \$13 million was spent in 1986 on CIA assistance to the rebels, the sources said.

The CIA moved quickly to carry out the finding because it provided an opportunity to help the rebels with critical aid at a time when Congress had prohibited U.S. military assistance in their fight against Nicaragua's Sandinista government.

That intelligence and communications aid, which one Reagan administration source said was "like authorizing half a war," was explicitly permitted by Congress in legislative compromises made in late 1985.

At that time, the Senate was battling to expand U.S. help to the rebels, known as "contras," and the House of Representatives was trying to eliminate it entirely. Rather than continuing what had been a complete cutoff of CIA assistance to the contras, Congress agreed in November 1985 to a modification that allowed the agency to provide "intelligence and counterintelligence advice" and "information."

A staff report issued by the Senate and House said this assistance also could include "infrastructure expenditures and communications equipment."

In general, according to a variety of sources, the rebel fight was kept alive in 1986, before Congress resumed military assistance last fall, through the \$13 million in CIA assistance, along with \$27 million in "humanitarian" aid appropriated by Congress in 1985 and a network of private fund-raising efforts coordinated by a former National Security Council staff member, Lieutenant Colonel Oliver L. North.

Administration sources said that in the overall conflict the intelligence and communications assistance may have been more important than weapons.

Mr. Reagan's Jan. 9 finding was reported to the congressional intelligence committees as required, unlike the finding he signed eight days later that authorized the sale of arms to Iran and that was deliberately kept secret from the oversight committees in Congress.

Although the finding is basically a restatement of the law, the CIA cannot undertake any covert action, including providing advice, without formal presidential approval.

Once Mr. Reagan signed the Jan. 9 order, the director of central intelligence, William J. Casey, moved quickly to strengthen the CIA stations in relevant Central American countries and to ensure that the CIA and other U.S. intelligence agencies monitored every phase of the conflict, sources said.

One source said the National Security Agency, the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency and the U.S. military intelligence services were given additional tasks to ensure that "the Sandinistas and contras were covered with a blanket."

Another source said several dozen intelligence reports on the conflict flowed out of one major Central American CIA station each day. The sources said \$10 million was spent on this heightened intelligence gathering, and \$5 million on aid. See AID, Page 6.

In Beijing, Hu's Ouster Is Rumored

By Jim Mann
Los Angeles Times Service

BEIJING — The Chinese Communist Party convened an extraordinary high-level meeting Wednesday at which changes in the party leadership may be approved, diplomats reported.

The diplomats said it appears increasingly likely that the meeting was called to approve the ouster of Hu Yaobang, the top-ranking aide to China's senior leader, Deng Xiaoping. Mr. Hu is secretary-general of the Communist Party.

Foreign Communist newspapers have reported "rumors" that Mr. Hu would be replaced as party chief by Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang. The prime minister is another Deng protégé, but he has concerned himself primarily with economic policy and not with questions of political or ideological change.

Mr. Hu has not been seen in public for more than two weeks. A spokesman for the international liaison department of the party said Monday that Mr. Hu has health problems. The spokesman would not respond to questions about whether Mr. Hu remains the secretary-general.

Japan's Kyodo news agency, which has had a good record for accuracy in covering China's recent political developments, said Wednesday that Mr. Deng had criticized Mr. Hu on three occasions since the end of December and had once urged him to resign.

Mr. Hu is reported to have been accused of displaying a lenient attitude toward student demonstrators and toward "bourgeois liberalization," a term covering a wide range of Western democratic ideas.

One Western diplomat said he believed that the party had called a special meeting of the Central Committee, the 209-member group responsible for setting the overall direction of party policy. "The meeting is now under way," he said.

Generally, the Central Committee meets only once a year or so. It See CHINA, Page 6.

At White House, Reagan Recovers Footing

By Lou Cannon and David Hoffman
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Donald T. Regan, whose hold on his job as White House chief of staff seemed tenuous two weeks ago, is now secure in his position and moving to fill key White House vacancies, according to his personal choices, according to Regan administration and Republican sources.

"Regan didn't want to make any moves while he was fighting for his own survival," a senior White House official said. "Now that he's fought off the demands for his resignation, he is putting his own stamp on the place."

On Monday, Mr. Regan's choice for White House spokesman, Martin Fitzwater, was named to succeed Larry Speakes. On Tuesday, White House sources said that Mr. Regan would select a domestic policy director within the next several days, filling a post vacant since John A. Swahn resigned in September.

The sources said that John F. Cogan, who was a deputy in the Office of Management and Budget under its former director, David A. Stockman, and is now a top official with the conservative Hoover Institution, has met with Mr. Regan and is the leading candidate for the post of domestic policy director.

Two White House officials said they also expected the White House communications director, Patrick J. Buchanan, to leave, possibly to campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. One of the officials said that Mr. Regan was displeased with Mr. Buchanan's attempt to blame the news media and Congress for damage suffered by President Ronald Reagan in the controversy over the Iran arms sales and the diversion of funds to Nicaraguan rebels.

Whither Strauss — Bavaria or Bonn?

Premier Campaigns for 'Emergence From Third Reich'

By James M. Markham
New York Times Service

AUGEN, West Germany — It is the refrain that echoes off the stormiest applause. Hunkered behind the podium, Franz Josef Strauss calls upon his compatriots to come out of "the shadows of the Third Reich" and be proud to be Germans again.

"We have to end the attempt to limit German history to the 12 years of Hitler — the representation of German history as an endless path of German mistakes and crimes, criminalizing the Germans," the premier of Bavaria declared. "We must emerge from the dismal Third Reich and become a normal nation again."

The emphatic assertion of a German national identity comes naturally to the combative Mr. Strauss. In an election campaign lacking great suspense, one of the most consequential riddles is whether the conservative 71-year-old Bavarian's uncertain ambitions will carry him to Bonn as vice chancellor — and as a political bull in a coalition china shop — after the vote Jan. 25.

Several thousand Black Forest villagers and farmers sat up straight on their tippy wooden benches and clapped, cheered and shouted as Mr. Strauss, in his recent speech, plunged forward with his message of patriotic renewal.

"The historical truth shows that Germans in monstrous numbers committed terrible crimes — and whoever denies this has lost his connection with reality. But it would be the same loss of reality to say that the Germans and their



Franz Josef Strauss, Bavaria's premier, on campaign trail.

allies did not suffer horrible crimes at the end of the war and after it!" To fulfill its vital role as a self-confident democracy at the heart of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Mr. Strauss contended, West Germany needs a strong national identity and an end to "the blockade of its return to historical normality."

"We don't want any totally fanatical nationalists, and nothing like a nation of youthful fanatical nationalists," he cried. "But instead of a nation of 60 million fanatical nationalists we don't want a nation of 60 million nihilists!"

The roomy agricultural exhibition hall boomed with applause. His foes, and Mr. Strauss is a man some Germans love to hate, ominously suggest that if he does come to Bonn he will give Chancellor Helmut Kohl's center-right co-

alition a sharp shove to the right, reviving the spirit of the Cold War in foreign affairs and cracking down sharply on dissenters at home.

Hard-line statements prompted Mr. Kohl to declare Monday that an election victory for his coalition would not mean a rightward shift.

"We were concerned," said an aide to the chancellor, "that certain things said in the heat of the campaign might have clouded our policies. We didn't want there to be any doubt about this outside the country either."

It is an open secret that Mr. Strauss, who in the 1950s and '60s was variously minister for nuclear power, finance and defense, would dearly like to crown his long career by becoming foreign minister. But See STRAUSS, Page 6.

Tehran Says Its Forces Have Opened 2d Front; Missile Hits Baghdad

MANAMA, Bahrain — Iran said Wednesday that it had opened a second war front following a major thrust in southern Iraq and a missile attack on Baghdad, the third in four days.

Both sides reported inflicting heavy casualties in fighting on the central front, east of Baghdad and about 280 miles (450 kilometers) north of battles raging since Friday in southern Iraq.

Gulf-based diplomats said they believed that Iran wanted to open a second front to take pressure off its forces trying to move toward Basra, Iraq's second-largest city.

Iran said the "limited" operation north of the Iranian town of Samarra had succeeded in regaining some border territory held by Iraq since the first days of the war in September 1980.

Iraq said the Iranians had briefly occupied a small border post but the overnight offensive had been beaten back.

"The enemy offensive has failed and the invaders were defeated, leaving piles of corpses and large numbers of prisoners," an Iraqi communiqué said.

Residents in Baghdad said a surface-to-surface missile hit the city of about 4.5 million people at around midday Wednesday.

An Iraqi military spokesman said a number of civilians were killed or wounded and that several houses were destroyed. No precise death toll has been given for the three missile attacks since Sunday.

The developments coincide with Iranian calls for postponement of an Islamic summit meeting due to be held in Kuwait later this month. Both Iran and Iraq have been invited, but Iran says it will not attend because Kuwait is not neutral in the war.

The UN secretary-general, Javier Pérez de Cuellar, who plans to travel to Kuwait for the Jan. 26-28 meeting, proposed on Tuesday an urgent Security Council meeting at the foreign minister level to try to end the war.

He said he was ready to go to Baghdad and Tehran if such visits could get negotiations under way. Iran says no peace is possible with the present Iraqi leadership.

Iraq said Tuesday that its forces had seized 38 square miles (100 square kilometers) of Iraqi land in its southern drive toward Basra.

Diplomats in Baghdad said Iran had also massed hundreds of thousands of regular troops opposite Iraq's Second Army Corps in the central sector.

The Iraqi communiqué said Iran had used regular army troops to spearhead a cross-border attack for the first time in the war.

Tehran Radio said two Iraqi Soviet-made Tupolev bombers were shot down Wednesday over the southern front, bringing to 38 the number of Iraqi aircraft reported downed since Friday. Iraq has acknowledged the loss of six planes.

Iran Strikes at Kuwaitis

Iran stepped up attacks Wednesday on Kuwait's oil lifeline through the Gulf with a fourth missile attack in nine days on tankers serving the emirate, Reuters reported from Kuwait.

Regional shipping sources said an Iranian warship fired a missile at the 16,745-ton Kuwaiti-owned tanker Sandiah, laden with 25,000 tons of refined oil, shortly after midnight in the southern Gulf.

An engine room fire raged for more than two hours and living quarters were damaged. But no casualties were reported among the crew of about 28, believed to be, mainly Filipinos.

Soviet Statement on Gulf Said to Show Tilt to Iraq, 'Direct Warning to Iran'

By Elaine Sciolino

UNITED NATIONS, New York — An official Soviet statement on the Iran-Iraq war suggests that Moscow is tilting further toward Iraq while warning Iran, according to Western and Arab diplomats and experts on Iran.

The statement, issued simultaneously last week in the Soviet Union, several other nations and at the United Nations, also accuses the United States of having escalated the war by secretly selling weapons to Iran.

The Soviet statement was regarded here as the clearest, most detailed policy pronouncement to date by the Soviet Union on the six-year war.

It comes at a time when Iranian-Soviet relations are in flux because of the secret American arms sales to Iran and indications that the Kremlin may announce a withdrawal of some of its troops from Afghanistan. Iran has opposed Soviet involvement in Afghanistan.

The Soviet Union has previously taken great care in its public pronouncements to remain noncommittal on which side it supports in the war, both to hedge its bets in the event of an Iranian victory and to court Iran's leadership.

Although the Soviet Union remains Iraq's largest arms supplier, it does not block the shipment of weapons to Iran by Libya, Syria, North Korea and the East bloc.



Hong Kong to Tear Down a Landmark Slum

Hong Kong announced Wednesday that one of the colony's worst slums, known as the Walled City, would be torn down and replaced by a park. About 40,000 people are thought to live in the cluster of 12-story buildings north of the airport. The park project is expected to be completed by 1990.

Saudi Envoy In Beirut Disappears

BEIRUT — A Saudi diplomat has disappeared in Lebanon, and is feared to have been kidnapped, the police said Wednesday.

They said Bakr Damanhuri arrived at Beirut International Airport from Jeddah on Monday and disappeared between the airport road and his apartment.

No group has claimed responsibility for the abduction of Mr. Damanhuri, who is responsible for Saudi student affairs in Beirut.

Mr. Damanhuri's disappearance followed the kidnapping Tuesday of a French photographer, Roger Anquet, which also has not been claimed by any group.

It also came as Terry Waite, the Church of England envoy, was continuing his mission in West Beirut in an attempt to gain the release of foreign hostages.

Saudi Arabia condemned what it said was Mr. Damanhuri's abduction. "The kingdom deplains such terrorist actions and calls on Lebanese authorities to act quickly and free him," the Saudi Press Agency quoted an official as saying.

A special Arab League committee, meanwhile, met President Amin Gemayel on Wednesday for talks aimed at ending fighting between Palestinians and Shiite Muslim militiamen at refugee camps in Lebanon, official sources said.

Chad Puts Libyans on Display

100 Prisoners Paraded Before Press and Diplomats

By Jonathan C. Randal

Washington Post Service

NDJAMENA, Chad — Chad put more than 100 captured Libyans on display in the capital, Ndjamena, and called on the Libyan Army and people to overthrow their leader, Colonel Mouammar Gadhafi.

The prisoners were paraded Tuesday onto the stage at the Foreign Ministry auditorium for a two-hour ceremony attended by the press, diplomatic corps and selected members of the Chadian elite.

Most of the prisoners, who were barefooted, appeared to be in good health. Chadian soldiers, however, carried one badly burned prisoner in on a stretcher, and several other Libyans wore clean bandages.

Only a week ago, the authorities had to cut short a similar ceremony when 22 of the same prisoners, many with bloodstained dressings and uniforms, were stoned by a large crowd.

Tuesday's calmer proceedings appeared aimed at convincing the outside world that the first time in Chad's two decades of almost uninterrupted civil strife, the fighting pits Chadians not against each other but against Libya.

Rebels loyal to former President Goukouni Oueddei have recently joined government forces.

The entire ceremony was conducted in Arabic — apparently for use in radio broadcasts to Libya — and in French, the language of most Chadians.

The prisoners showed no visible emotion as Information Minister Mouammar Togi Hamidi addressed them as "dear brothers" and "innocent victims" of Colonel Gadhafi's "unprovoked aggression."

The minister said Colonel Gadhafi had turned Libya into a "police state," wasted its oil riches and reduced the population to living up for scarce necessities.

Chad, the minister said, respected the rule of law and the Geneva conventions governing prisoners of war, and had allowed the Libyans to communicate with their families through the International Committee of the Red Cross.

There was no apparent reaction among the prisoners when he pledged all "necessary aid" for the "Libyan army and people," whom he said should rise up and "free" Libya from Colonel Gadhafi's rule.

"They can count on our aid from the outset," he said, "for this work of salvation."

When the minister allowed journalists to ask questions, most of the prisoners brought before the microphone were circumspect, although they said they were being "well treated."

One 20-year-old Libyan captured at Fada, asked what he thought of Libya's presence in Chad, said: "I was drafted. I carried out orders."

A bearded prisoner rattled off

his name, sent greetings to his family and said, "We should fight to free Palestine" from Israeli control, "not make trouble for Chad."

The authorities appeared pleased with the prisoners' performance. Toward the end, Chadian soldiers, passed out cigarettes. That was the only time the captives showed any real animation, and some had to be prevented from pushing aside their fellows for fear there would not be enough cigarettes to go around.

New Fighting Reported
Chad said Wednesday that its forces destroyed a Libyan command post in the northern Tibesti mountains around Zouar, but said intensive Libyan bombings were continuing. The Associated Press reported.

Libyan Assault West
The official Libyan press agency JANA said that Colonel Gadhafi urged African Muslims on Tuesday to mount a counteroffensive against "Franco-American Christian imperialism" in Africa. Agence France-Presse reported Wednesday from Tripoli, Libya.

The Chad information minister said the fighting began Tuesday with a Libyan ground and air attack just outside the outpost at Zouar. He said 16 Libyans were killed and six prisoners were taken, including Turks and Malians.

Details of the fighting in the north, about 600 miles (1,000 kilometers) from Ndjamena, could not be confirmed independently.

Libyan Assault West
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WORLD BRIEFS

Kabul Says Truce Will Start Today

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (Reuters) — The Afghan government's promised cease-fire in its seven-year war with Muslim guerrillas was to begin Thursday, the Afghan leader, Major General Najibullah, said in a broadcast over Kabul Radio, monitored here.

General Najibullah urged the guerrillas, who have rejected the cease-fire, to also stop fighting. The Soviet-backed government in Kabul has said the truce would last six months on condition that it was respected by the guerrillas.

In announcing the cease-fire on Jan. 3, General Najibullah promised the guerrillas an amnesty and peace talks and reiterated his pledge to form a coalition government that would include opposition figures.

Greek Workers Begin General Strike

ATHENS (Reuters) — Greek power workers stopped work on Wednesday before the 24-hour general strike scheduled for Thursday over demands for an end to a freeze on government wages.

The strike Wednesday, by about 30,000 electricity workers, resulted in power outages in Athens and northern Greece, where there is severe cold weather.

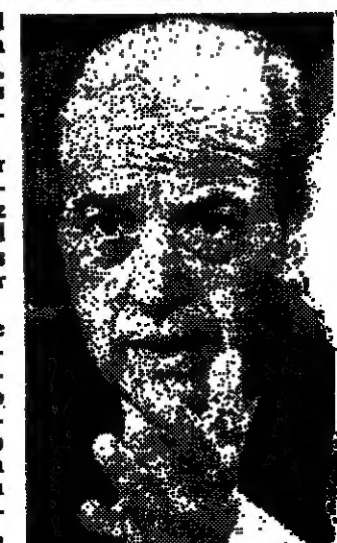
Two million government workers are expected to join the strike on Thursday. Virtually every sector of the Greek work force will be affected, including transport workers, teachers, pilots, bank clerks and judges. A Greek airports, except in Athens, will be closed, and most foreign flight will be canceled.

Gibraltar Talks End Without Accord

LONDON (AP) — Britain and Spain concluded on Wednesday a new round of talks on Gibraltar but without satisfying Spain's claim to sovereignty over the British colony.

Britain's foreign secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, and Foreign Minister Francisco Fernández Ordóñez of Spain held talks Tuesday and Wednesday, and Mr. Ordóñez was later received by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

The Foreign Office said there was a "full discussion" of the sovereignty issue, with Sir Geoffrey emphasizing Britain's commitment to honor the wishes of the 25,000 Gibraltarians, most of whom desire to remain British. The two foreign ministers noted some progress on cooperation between Spain and Gibraltar, in such fields as tourism, environmental issues, culture and sport and public health and education, the Foreign Office said.



Francisco Ordóñez

Islam Threat Is Potential, Ozal Asserts

ANKARA — Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said Wednesday that Islamic fundamentalism posed potential dangers to Turkey, but he said the threat was not immediate.

Mr. Ozal denied that he had a difference of opinion on the subject with President Kenan Evren, who called on the nation last week to unite against the threat of religious extremism.

"There is a potential danger of religious fundamentalism in Turkey," Mr. Ozal said at a press conference, "but it does not appear as a threat today."

A major public debate has taken place in Turkey since early this month, when university officials banned female students from covering their heads with turbans or scarves in accordance with Islamic tradition.

Students have staged hunger strikes and other protests and hundreds of people have sent telegrams to national leaders demanding that the ban be lifted.

Press reports on the controversy have contrasted Mr. Evren's tough stand with the lack of a clear position from Mr. Ozal.

"Presenting this as a fight between Evren and myself will bring good to nobody but will harm the country," Mr. Ozal said.

"Turkey is a country which is progressing," he said. "Religious fundamentalism means going back. There is no chance of Turkey ever going back."

Almost all the Turkish people are Muslims, but the country's secular constitution demands separation of religion from state institutions, including universities.

Both Mr. Ozal and Mr. Evren's spokesman denied reports in two newspapers that senior generals had submitted a letter to the president expressing unease about religious activities and complaining of infiltration of the armed forces by Muslim fundamentalists.

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Firebomb on Colombian Bus Kills 15

BARRANQUILLA, Colombia (AP) — A firebomb in the rear of a crowded bus killed at least 15 passengers and wounded 10, police reported Wednesday.

Two other buses were set on fire Tuesday in this northern port city on the Atlantic coast, but police said there were no casualties. Officials said no individual or group claimed responsibility for the attacks, but they suspected leftist guerrillas.

Buses are believed to be targets of attacks because of a 22 percent increase in fares ordered by the government.

South African Papers Challenge Curbs

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) — South Africa's two largest English-language press groups brought a joint court application on Wednesday, challenging the latest government curbs on reports concerning banned organizations such as the African National Congress.

The urgent application was made by the Argus group and South African Associated Newspapers, both of which publish major daily newspapers. The new restrictions forbid publication of "anything calculated to improve or to promote the public image or esteem" of an unlawful organization. They were imposed Friday by the police under powers conferred on them when a state of emergency was declared seven months ago.

For the Record

The French cabinet approved draft legislation Wednesday on Channel Tunnel project. The 50 billion francs (about \$8 billion) new to finance construction of the twin rail tunnels between England and France will be raised by public shares to be offered this year.

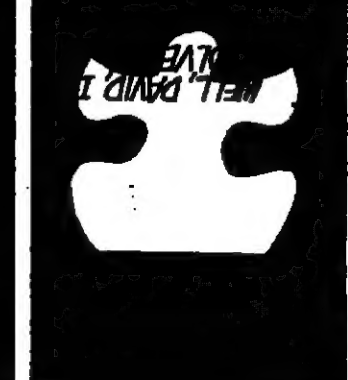
A U.S. envoy, Richard W. Murphy, returned to Israel on Wednesday on peace prospects in the Middle East. Mr. Murphy, as secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, is mission to the region that began last week.

DOONESBURY

SWISH UNSCRAMBLE THE IRAN CRISIS PUZZLE...



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Law on Pregnancy Leave Upheld in U.S.

By Al Kamen
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court has upheld a state law requiring employers to provide unpaid pregnancy leave to employees. The 6-3 decision Tuesday upheld a California law similar to statutes in eight other states. The California law requires employers to give female workers an unpaid pregnancy disability leave of up to four months and guarantees that their jobs will be available when they return.

Lawyers on both sides said the decision in the case, which was being closely watched by business, labor and civil rights groups, was certain to encourage efforts in other states to pass similar laws.

The court, in an opinion by Justice Thurgood Marshall, rejected arguments by business groups and the Reagan administration that the California law violated the 1978 Pregnancy Disability Act. The 1978 law says pregnant workers must be treated the same as, but not better than, workers with other disabilities.

The Supreme Court agreed with a lower court decision that Congress did not intend the 1978 act to limit the benefits for pregnant women. It was, Justice Marshall wrote, only to be "a floor beneath which pregnancy disability benefits may not drop—not a ceiling above which they may not rise."

The court's action concerned only periods in a pregnancy when a woman is physically unable to work and disability insurance would apply, as it does in cases of illness or injury.

The case, California Federal Savings and Loan Association vs. Guerra, involved Lillian Garland, a receptionist at the Los Angeles-based savings and loan company who lost her job after taking three months' pregnancy leave. State officials charged the bank with violating the state law and the bank sued to have the law overturned.

In San Francisco, Mrs. Garland's attorneys hailed the decision as "a landmark in establishing equal opportunity in the workplace." At a news conference Tuesday afternoon, Patricia Shiu, an attorney for the Employment Law Center, said the ruling meant that "women can now be free to have children without confronting the risk of job loss and economic hardship."



Lillian Garland, whose lawsuit resulted in the Supreme Court decision on pregnancy leave, facing a picture of her daughter at her new job at a real estate company in Los Angeles.

Justice Marshall was joined by Justices William J. Brennan Jr., Harry A. Blackmun, Sandra Day O'Connor and, for the most part, John Paul Stevens. Justice Antonin Scalia concurred in the ruling but did not sign the opinion.

Justice Byron R. White, in dissent with Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr., said the California law was "in square conflict" with the federal law because it required "every employer to have a disability-leave policy for pregnancy even if it has none for any other disability." Such preferential treatment, the dissenters said, was "contrary to the mandate" of the federal law.

The ruling "gives a signal to states to enact preferential pregnancy-benefit laws," she said, and "I can't see them not doing so," given the increasing number of women of child-bearing age in the labor force.

Justice Marshall was joined by Justices William J. Brennan Jr., Harry A. Blackmun, Sandra Day O'Connor and, for the most part, John Paul Stevens. Justice Antonin Scalia concurred in the ruling but did not sign the opinion.

Justice Byron R. White, in dissent with Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr., said the California law was "in square conflict" with the federal law because it required "every employer to have a disability-leave policy for pregnancy even if it has none for any other disability." Such preferential treatment, the dissenters said, was "contrary to the mandate" of the federal law.

The ruling "gives a signal to states to enact preferential pregnancy-benefit laws," she said, and "I can't see them not doing so," given the increasing number of women of child-bearing age in the labor force.

Herald Tribune reported from Paris.

In countries belonging to the European Community, all working women are entitled to some paid leave during pregnancy and maternity.

In France, women are entitled to 16 weeks off with pay, in Belgium 22 weeks, and in Denmark 24 weeks. The women receive incomes varying from 60 percent to 90 percent of their salaries. In Greece, women receive 50 percent of their income for 12 weeks. But in West Germany, women receive a full salary for 14 weeks off, and in Italy women are entitled to five months off at full pay, with a further right to work part-time for a year after, again at full pay.

A new mother's right to return to her previous position is guaranteed for up to two years in several countries, including France, Britain and some Scandinavian nations.

Army Minister 'Bell Jar' Movie Prompts Suit

In Brazil Denies Coup Speculation

By Juan de Onís
International Herald Tribune

RIO DE JANEIRO — General Leonidas Pires Gonçalves, Brazil's army minister, has denied speculation that there might be a military coup, after a meeting with President José Sarney in Brasília.

Governor Leonel Brizola of Rio de Janeiro state, a leftist opponent of Mr. Sarney, predicted Monday in a newspaper interview that the rapid rise in inflation following the relaxation of price controls in November would lead to dissatisfaction both in the labor unions and among businessmen.

"Sarney's government has lost national confidence," said Mr. Brizola. "There is danger of a military coup."

However, General Pires said Monday, after meeting with Mr. Sarney, that Mr. Brizola was a "poor analyst."

He added: "If Governor Brizola thinks there is a possibility of a coup, he does not know the reality of the Brazilian Army."

Mr. Brizola, the leader of the socialist Brazilian Democratic Worker Party, has presidential ambitions and has been promoting a national campaign to shorten Mr. Sarney's term.

However, his handpicked candidate to succeed him as governor of Rio de Janeiro was defeated in elections in November.

Mr. Brizola has urged that a constituent assembly, which is to begin work next month, advance the date of the next presidential vote, now scheduled for 1989.

On Wednesday, the 22 Brazilian state governors who are members of the Brazilian Democratic Movement, the main party in Mr. Sarney's centrist coalition government, met in Brasília with Mr. Sarney and Finance Minister Dilson Fumero.

Mr. Sarney wants the governors to endorse economic measures to contain an upsurge of inflation. Prices rose more than 7 percent in December and threaten a further increase of up to 15 percent this month.

Interest rates, in anticipation of the higher inflation, have soared to monthly rates of 12 percent to 15 percent, which would lead to annual rates of 500 percent if the trend is not reversed.

By Matthew L. Wald
New York Times Service

BOSTON — A Boston psychiatrist who says she is the basis for a character in Sylvia Plath's novel "The Bell Jar," has filed a lawsuit contending defamation, invasion of privacy and intentional infliction of emotional distress, growing out of a 1979 film version of the book.

The case, which is scheduled to be heard in U.S. District Court here later this week, sets the stage for a major test between the rights of artists to express themselves and the right of individuals to privacy. As such, the case may establish a precedent of unusual importance.

The psychiatrist, Dr. Jane V. Anderson, contends in her suit that she is the basis for Joan Gilling, a character in the novel and movie. Dr. Anderson's attorney said she did not object to the representation of the character in Miss Plath's novel, but based her suit on a scene from the movie involving homosexual advances on the part of the Gilling character.

Defense attorneys say that although the novel is semi-autobiographical, the Gilling character is fictional. If the suit succeeds, according to Victor Kovner, one of the defense attorneys, "it would limit the traditional freedom to create fictional characters based upon the life experience of the author."

"We're dealing with what we believe is one of the great works of contemporary American literature, a true work of art, the serious exploration of a woman's attempt to deal with mental illness," Mr. Kovner added. "It moved hundreds of thousands of readers in this country, if not millions."

Harry L. Manion 3d, the attorney for Dr. Anderson, said he would argue in the trial, for which jury selection was to begin Wednesday, that the problem was "carelessness" by movie producers. Defendants in the suit include Ted Hughes, the English poet laureate, who, as Miss Plath's husband and administrator of her estate, sold the motion-picture rights, and several companies involved in producing and distributing the film.

Dr. Anderson is an assistant clin-



Sylvia Plath

suicide pact. That incident is not in the book.

"We have no quarrel with the book," he said. "The problem came, he said, 'when Hollywood got its hands on this property.'"

The case is complicated by the inability of the author to defend herself. Miss Plath attempted suicide in 1953, before writing the novel, and killed herself in 1963, soon after the book was published in England under a pseudonym. It was published there under her own name in 1966, and in the United States in 1971.

A film with the same title was shown in movie theaters beginning in 1979, and a less graphic version with milder language, shot at the same time, was shown twice on CBS and nine times on HBO, and is now being distributed on video cassette by Vestron, the plaintiff said.

According to Mr. Manion, Dr. Anderson is identified by name as the model for the Gilling character in two biographies of Miss Plath published in the 1970s. Mr. Manion also contends that one of the producers said he had a copy of one of the books, "Sylvia Plath, Method and Madness," by Edward Butcher, published in 1976 by Scribner Press.

"They either knew or could easily have found out that Dr. Anderson was the basis of Joan Gilling," he said.

Bess Myerson Steps Down

As N.Y. Cultural Aide

United Press International

NEW YORK — Bess Myerson will take a leave of absence "for no longer than 90 days" as cultural affairs commissioner of New York while the city examines her refusal to testify before a grand jury investigating her companion.

Miss Myerson, 62, who Miss America in 1945, invoked her Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination when she was called to testify in December before a federal grand jury that is investigating her companion, Carl Capasso. Mr. Capasso is a contractor who does millions of dollars worth of business in the city.

Lawyers on both sides of the case agree that Dr. Anderson's real-life relationship to Miss Plath is reproduced in several ways in the relationship between Joan Gilling and the book's central character, Esther Greenwood.

In real life, Dr. Anderson was a year ahead of Miss Plath at Smith College in Massachusetts and at different times each dated the same man. Later they were patients at the same psychiatric hospital. The same relationship holds for Esther Greenwood and Joan Gilling in the novel.

Mr. Manion said a major part of the case was a suggestion of homosexual tendencies made strongly in the movie, including an attempt by the Gilling character to lure the Greenwood character into a lovers' embrace.

Colombian Envoy Shot in Budapest Is Drug Foe

By Alan Riding
New York Times Service

BOGOTA — The wounding of a former justice minister who until recently headed Colombia's anti-drug campaign marks an apparent extension of the country's drug war into Eastern Europe.

The official, Enrique Parejo González, 56, now the ambassador to Hungary, had been assigned to the diplomatic post in August in the apparent belief that he would be beyond the reach of Colombian narcotics traffickers who had repeatedly threatened his life.

The Foreign Ministry here said Mr. Parejo, a lawyer, was shot five times by an unidentified gunman as he left his home in Budapest on Tuesday morning. The assassin first asked him in Spanish whether he was Colombia's ambassador. He was reported in satisfactory condition Wednesday.

The attempt on Mr. Parejo, whose predecessor as justice minister was killed on orders of cocaine traffickers in April 1984, appeared to confirm a dramatic new escalation in Colombia's drug war.

On Tuesday afternoon, the local office of Agence France-Press said it received a call from a so-called Hernán Botero Moreno Command, which claimed to have shot "the traitor Parejo" on behalf of those whose extradition is being sought by the United States.

Only last month, President Virgilio Barco Vargas ordered a new offensive against the multibillion-dollar narcotics trade after the slaying here of Guillermo Cano Lara, who was the publisher of El Espectador, Bogotá's second largest newspaper, and a strong critic of drug operators.

Since then, the authorities said army and police units have carried out 1,198 raids and arrested 783 suspects, including three who are on a list of 113 reported traffickers whose extradition has been requested by the United States. None of the half-dozen biggest traffickers has been caught.

As the Colombian authorities have increased their pressure on the cocaine underworld, however, drug-related violence has increased, with about 30 judges, 20 journalists and numerous policemen all killed in the aftermath of the killing of Justice Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla in 1984.

But on two occasions, leading traffickers also offered to repatriate several billion dollars to help pay off the country's foreign debt if

the government would renounce Colombia's 1979 Extradition Treaty with the United States, under which 13 Colombians have been sent for trial there.

When the government of President

Belisario Betancor refused to revoke the treaty, the traffickers reportedly focused their threats and offers of bribes on the country's Supreme Court, which reviews all extradition requests.

Interest rates, in anticipation of the higher inflation, have soared to monthly rates of 12 percent to 15 percent, which would lead to annual rates of 500 percent if the trend is not reversed.

Officials Say Jailings Won't Cripple Mafia

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Mafia in the United States has been hurt but not crippled by the long prison sentences imposed on eight of its top leaders, law enforcement officials say.

Among those receiving 100-year sentences Tuesday were three men convicted as the bosses of major organized crime families: Anthony Salerno, 76, of the Genovese family; Anthony Corallo, 73, of the Lucchese group; and Carmine Persico, 53, of the Colombo group.

Judge Richard Owen of U.S. District Court also sentenced four other persons to 100 years each for carrying out the orders of a Mafia board of directors called "the Commission." An eighth defendant was sentenced to 40 years.

The defendants were convicted Nov. 19 of conducting the affairs of the Commission in a racketeering pattern that included murders, loan-sharking, labor payoffs and extortion.

"I can't say it's the end of the Commission," U.S. Attorney Rudolph Giuliani said Tuesday. "But it makes it much more difficult to operate that kind of an operation."

Each of those sentenced would be eligible for parole after 10 years, he said, and under federal law would have to be released after serving two-thirds of his sentence.

Ronald Goldstock, head of the New York State Organized Crime Task Force, called the sentencing "a devastating day for the mob."

However, he added, "business continues."



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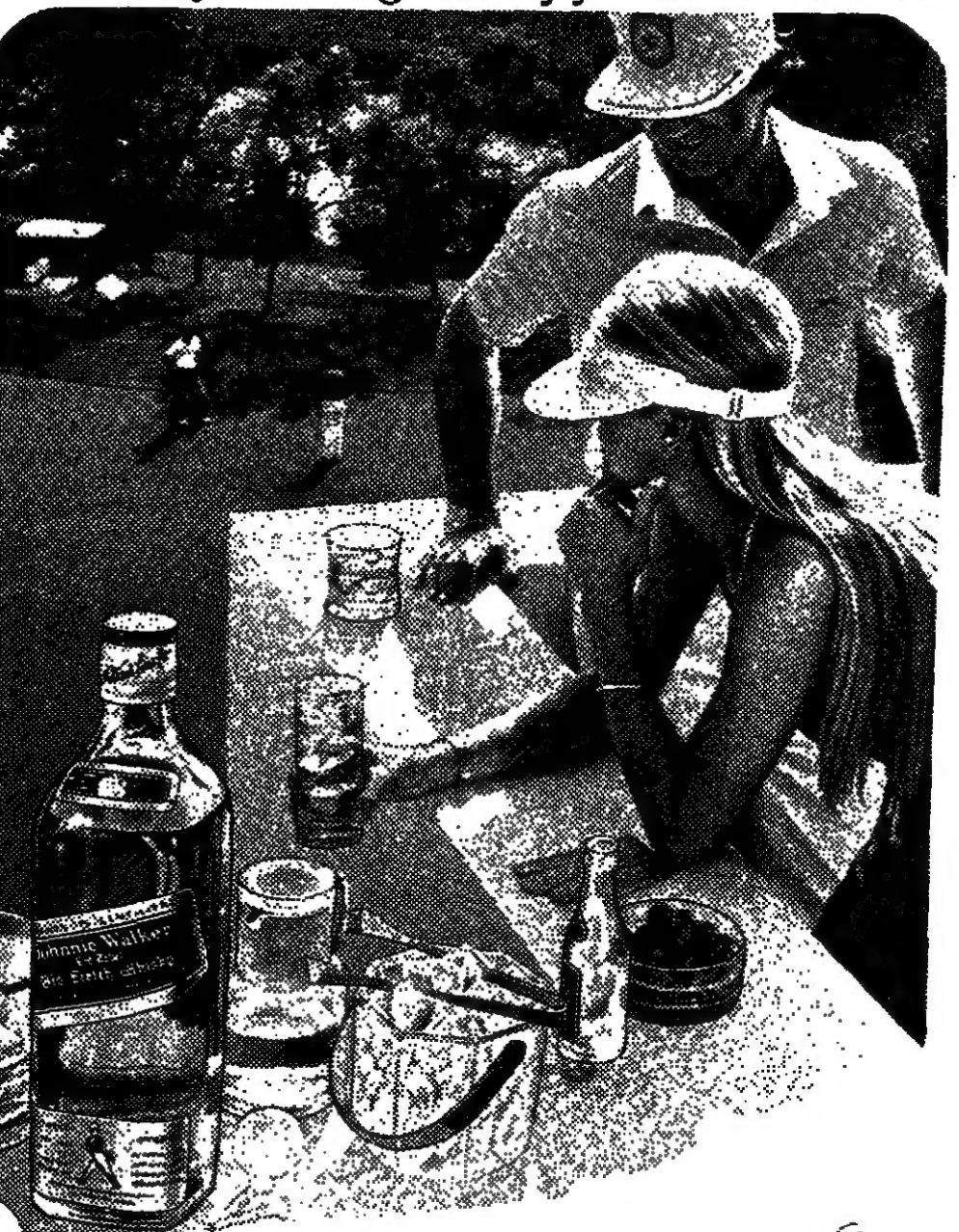
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Now Iran Attacks Again

Winter is the season for warfare in the swamps and deserts along the rim of the Gulf, and the fighting has picked up again between Iran and Iraq. The Iraqis are far better armed, and their superior air power has succeeded in holding Iran's oil exports down to half the level of a year ago. But Iran has more infantrymen. Its population is larger by a ratio of nearly three to one, and that defines the deadlock that has prevailed since shortly after the war began more than six years ago.

The Iraqis are on the defensive, behind an extremely heavily armed line of fortifications. Iran has the initiative, constantly probing, throwing its foot soldiers against the enemy's lines with tactics and losses reminiscent of World War I. The Iraqis have now pushed a little further into Iraq near Basra. If they can hold their gain, it would be a significant show of strength, although not a crucial victory. If they cannot, they will try again somewhere else.

This war is the reality at the center of the Iran arms scandal in Washington. The Reagan administration says it sold Iran too little to have a significant effect on the outcome. But apparently the Iranian government thought otherwise, for it spent a

good deal from its dwindling reserves to buy the American weapons and parts. Its aircraft seem to have been much more in evidence this winter than for quite a long time—reportedly including some of the F-4s that the United States sold the Shah in the 1970s. Either the Iraqis had been hoarding them for this moment, or, perhaps more likely, they have managed to acquire some of the replacement parts they needed.

Nothing that has happened so far in this latest surge of fighting suggests that the deadlock is about to be broken. But if at some point it should break, the consequences would reach a long way. It is not only a war between different definitions of Islam, with the militantly anti-modern position represented by Iran. It is also a war for hegemony in the Gulf region, which has most of the world's known oil reserves. The master of that region sets the world's price. The rest of the world has the strongest kind of interest in bringing this war to a negotiated end with no clear winner, but no one has found a way to do it. With the arms sales Washington has given a measure of material aid, inadvertently, political support to Iran. Now Iran is pressing its attack again.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Telling China to China

Dismissals and denunciations of writers, university figures and others associated with the democracy protests in China are being reported in the official press, and the assumption is that reprimands with crushing effects on career prospects are going quietly into the files of student protesters. These are among the mean and vindictive ways a totalitarian government can control dissent without getting into the heavy-handed stuff that fires up people and looks bad abroad. The protesters themselves, in the nationwide demonstrations seen in the last six weeks, seem not only exceptionally brave but also determinedly orderly and even modest in their demands. A government with confidence in itself would not be harassing and punishing them as it is.

From all appearances, the protests arise from an appetite for democracy whetted by Deng Xiaoping's reformist program and by the word brought back home by the thousands of Chinese who have been studying overseas. Youthful idealism and the hardships of student life no doubt also play a role. In China, however, there is an old tradition of politicians' manipulation of protests staged by the students. Perhaps Mr. Deng figured the marches would generate demand for the changes by which he apparently hopes to break his dogmatic

opposition's still strong grip on the economic bureaucracy. But it could also be that the opposition means to use the protests to discredit reform. These things go on behind a veil, but they do go on. Student demands for a broader role in local elections, for a more open press and even for Western-style freedoms are important in their own right and as moves in a continuing and portentous political struggle.

In the United States, the general tendency to cheer for dissent in police states is tempered in some quarters by awareness that China is in certain respects a friend and strategic partner and that it has at least been inching toward a free market and experimenting with a degree of political openness. Still, nothing that American officials say about China is nearly as important as what the U.S. government's radio says to China. The Voice of America, by doing what it was already doing, offers its millions of Chinese listeners an alternative to the official press's report on events in China. For doing this job the Voice of America has come under some criticism in Beijing, but it seems to be giving the available news straight and, in that way, making a major and appropriate contribution to China's uncertain democratic passage.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

'A Mistaken Friend'

New York's Cardinal John O'Connor is scarcely the first eminence to stumble over the loaded arguments in every visitor's path to the Middle East. He was obviously innocent of the ambivalence in his church's diplomacy concerning Israel. But the criticism flung at him by Jewish organizations in New York is overwrought—especially since Israel invited him at the urging of the very Jewish leaders now unhappy with an outcome that might have been predicted.

In a curious statement, the Jewish press somehow faulted the cardinal because the Holy See refuses to come to terms "with the reality of a unified Jerusalem as the capital of Israel." But the United States, along with most of the world's nations, also refuses to de jure recognition of Jerusalem as capital. It is as if his critics wanted Cardinal O'Connor to be holier than the pope, as well as the State Department, on the vexed question of Israel's 1967 annexation of East Jerusalem. And if the cardinal's views on Palestinian rights do not square exactly with those of many Israelis, so what?

Granted, the Holy See absurdly insists

that its dignitaries not visit Israeli leaders in their Jerusalem offices. Granted, too, that Pope Pius XII was shamefully silent about Nazi Germany's crimes against Jews and non-Jews; and that only tardily did the Catholic Church begin contending actively against anti-Semitism. It is also true, as the Jewish leaders' critical statement acknowledges, that Cardinal O'Connor "has shown himself to be a strong voice against anti-Semitism." How unfortunate that these kind words were lost in the rush to get out a hostile statement before the cardinal had claimed his baggage at Kennedy Airport. So unseemly was the haste that a partial apology was offered by the mobilizer of the protest, Morris B. Abram.

The wisest words in this sorry affair—may they also be the last ones—are those of Nathan Perlmutter, whose Anti-Defamation League withdrew its support of the statement. "We feel on some of these questions the cardinal is a mistaken friend but not an adversary," he said. "It's better to talk to him than at him."

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

Don't Press Japan to Rearm

All considered, Japan's reluctance to build military power commensurate with its economic strength is a good thing.

The Soviet military threat to Japan has grown in recent years. The Soviet Union now deploys 41 divisions east of Lake Baikal. It has more than 160 SS-20 nuclear missiles aimed at Asian targets; 2,400 combat aircraft, including 85 long-range bombers, and a large Pacific fleet.

Under prodding from the United States, which is overextended in the Pacific area, Japanese military spending has been going up. Mr. Nakasone has gone far beyond his predecessors in frankly recognizing Japan's responsibility to build military forces capable of repelling a limited Soviet attack—or holding off a major Soviet thrust until U.S. military power could be brought to bear.

Even if the five-year defense plan is fully implemented, Japanese military spending will climb to only 1.4 percent of GNP by 1991, and Japan will still be incapable of defending against a non-nuclear Soviet attack without massive American help.

It would be unwise, however, to press for a major acceleration of Japanese rearmament as some kind of substitute for satisfactory adjustment of trade and investment

issues. No amount of U.S. pressure could produce a timely Japanese consensus in favor of a major rearmament program; although Japanese public opinion is slowly changing, anti-militarist sentiments are still deeply rooted. Equally important, other nations in East Asia, with unpleasant memories of Japanese occupation in World War II, do not want to see a major resurgence of Japanese military power. And, as some Japanese have said, Americans cannot be sure that a serious rearmament program, once under way, would stay within bounds that the United States itself would like.

The greatest contributions that the Japanese could make to peace and security in East Asia are a major expansion of economic aid—true aid—and adjustment of Japanese trading practices to give other Asian nations, as well as the United States, a fair shot at the Japanese market.

If the U.S. economy continues to wallow along with enormous trade deficits, it will not be able to afford Pacific military forces of the sort necessary to cope with growing Soviet military power. The most helpful thing that the Japanese can do is to accelerate the implementation of economic reform plans that would make Japan a more constructive partner in world trade.

—THE LOS ANGELES TIMES.

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Syria and Israel: Too Near the Brink of a New War

By Gideon Rafael



Drawing by TURBID in Mifflin (Lancaster).
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Iran and Iraq: If True, Tehran's Claims Should Set Off Alarms

By Drew Middleton

WASHINGTON — Two tentative conclusions can be drawn from recent reports of an Iranian offensive in southern Iraq. The first is that this is the largest Iranian operation in 11 months. The second is that if Iran's tales of success, especially the claim to have severed the links between the Iraqi 3d Corps and the 7th Corps to the south, are true or even close to the truth, an alarm should be sounding in every capital in the Middle East.

A triumphant Iran, eager to spread Shiite domination, would be a far greater danger to the area's stability than a victorious but exhausted Iraq. One of the mysteries of the Israeli role in shipping U.S. arms to Iran is why the shipments were ever countenanced by the Israeli high command.

Israeli army and air force officers are openly concerned by the prospect of an Iranian victory. "Iraq is dangerous enough," a high-ranking general said, "but a conquered Iraq with those crises from Tehran in control could lead to a new explosion involving this country."

Most reports about the fighting should be heavily discounted. The communiques and situation reports remind one of Damon Runyon's description of "Alice in Wonderland" as "nothing but a pack of lies, but very interesting in spots."

One of the interesting spots is the Iranian claim to have reached the water defenses of Basra. If true, this is the deepest penetration Iran has made in what is evidently an attempt to

JERUSALEM — While in the past year the Iran-Iraq war continued to dominate the Middle East scene, 1987 may see the emergence of another regional epicenter, the long-simmering Syrian-Israeli conflict.

The intensity of confrontation between Syria and Israel depends on the actions of those two countries and, no less, on the onsets and deeds of their superpower allies. Soviet and American indifference to innovations in regional warfare — Iraq's use of poison gas, Iran's launching of missiles against urban populations — affects military thinking and planning in Syria and Israel.

For several years the Syrian army has been equipped with short-range Soviet surface-to-surface missiles. The Soviet Union has also supplied Syria with longer-range and more accurate later models capable of hitting the main urban centers of Israel. Reliable sources report that Syria has acquired a chemical warfare capability and is adapting missile warheads for poison gas.

Flash points on both sides are abundant: imprudent Syrian troop movements, interference with Israeli aerial surveillance of Lebanon, losses incurred by Syrian-sponsored terrorist activity in the security zone protecting Israel's northern border, terrorist actions like the attempt planned by Syria to blow up an El Al plane. Actions such as these could trigger another Arab-Israeli war of hitherto unknown dimensions and consequences.

An immense threat has been created by the addition of medium-range missiles and chemical weapons to Syria's arsenal, to be used when it has attained "strategic parity" with Israel. This is likely not to deter war but to precipitate it. Israel can no longer dismiss as idle bluster President Hafez al-Assad's state-

ment of last Feb. 27 that "history will record how the Golan became the apex of the Holocaust for the Israelis."

On the contrary, the threat to inflict a new holocaust on a people risen out of the ashes of the Nazi firestorm and to confront the survivors of the gas chambers with the menace of poison gas catches the emotions of all Israelis.

The next war might degenerate into a contest between chemical and radiation weapons—with global implications.

and forges a determination to respond with all means at their disposal.

The cry of the gouged Samson, "I shall die with the Philistines," is deeply embedded in the historical memory of the Jewish people. It could mean that the next war between Syria and Israel would degenerate into a contest between chemical and radiation weapons—with global implications.

In the past, Soviet military and political involvement in Syria and American commitment to Israel have prompted the great powers to stand by their allies and at the same time be wary of being dragged by them into a situation of dangerous confrontation. In every major Arab-Israeli confrontation, the two powers have watched the battle attentive-

ly and then intervened jointly and decisively to stop it. Each war ended with a cease-fire of the United Nations Security Council imposed by superpower consensus.

But acquisition of arms capable of mass destruction, the heightened combat readiness of masses of troops, the deepening distrust and Israel's narrow margin of security may touch off a conflict of a ferocity that even a fast-moving U.S.-Soviet fire brigade would be powerless to control. Routine practices of crisis management have become obsolete.

The risks must be confronted well in advance. The most logical way would be for the two warring states to adopt their own risk-reducing measures. But with there being no prospect of rational discourse between Syria and Israel, only the United States and the Soviet Union acting together can head off conflict.

The two powers have lost much valuable time. They must engage without further delay in discussions to restrain Syria from acts of provocation and aggressive preparation that could trigger retributive or pre-emptive Israeli action. Both sides must be made aware that the two superpowers will not tolerate another war or, in any circumstances, the crossing of the threshold of conventional warfare.

Once the two contenders become convinced of the determination of Washington and Moscow to confront an offensive, they will realize that war is not inevitable but that peace is indispensable. Israel reached that conclusion long ago and is waiting for its adversaries to follow suit.

The writer is a former director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry and a former ambassador to the United Nations. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

This Year's Trade Bill Could Be More Sensible Than Expected

By Hobart Rowen

WASHINGTON — This will be the year when a Democratic Congress passes, and Republican Ronald Reagan will sign, a trade bill. How restrictive such a trade law will be remains to be seen. In this political town, the basic assumption is that as much as 1987 is not an election year, the Democrats in charge of Congress will not find it necessary to be as blatantly protectionist as they tried to be last year.

After refusing to send up a trade bill of his own in 1986, Mr. Reagan and his political advisers have decided that it will be prudent to do so this year, in an effort, as one of them said privately, "to signal the parameters that are acceptable."

To put it more bluntly, the Reagan administration has been forced to pursue a course of damage limitation. As part of that strategy, the president's State of the Union message will tout a bundle of trade-promotion measures lumped under the banner of increasing "competitiveness." This will be a reprocessing of Mr. Reagan's largely forgotten 1985 Rouse speech on trade on Sept. 23, 1985, that followed the Sept. 22, 1985, decision by five leading industrial countries to push the dollar down.

"They blew it last year," says Doeren Brown of Consumers for World Trade. She meant that if the administration had made reasonable proposals to improve existing laws, it might more easily have deflected hysterical efforts like the textile quota bill that passed and almost beat a veto, or the effort by Representative Richard Gephardt, the Missouri Democrat, to slap import surcharges on countries

with big surpluses. Miss Brown and other advocates of open trade doubt that trade legislation can do much, if anything, to alter the \$170 billion U.S. trade deficit. Nonetheless, the political consensus in both parties calls for "action." And the Democrats, having won both houses of Congress, have made passage of a trade bill their first priority.

Senator Lloyd Bentsen, the Texas Democrat who chairs the Finance Committee, kicked off a set of hearings on Tuesday designed to "develop a national consensus on the goals of American trade policy." He has already indicated that Mr. Gephardt's quota proposal—which he and Representative Dan Rostenkowski endorsed in a 1986 bill that passed the House—is a nonstarter this year.

Mr. Bentsen says his aim instead is to promote an expansion of world trade. The Democrats are wise to pursue a more statesmanlike line: Not only is this a non-election year requiring less demagoguery, but last year any success they might have had in passing a protectionist bill would have needed the approval of a Republican Senate. So damage could have been blamed equally on the Republicans.

On the other hand, the Reagan administration, in doing its best to show how "tough" it can be on trade issues while still claiming to be the last of the true believers in free trade, is playing a risky game in its longstanding fight with the European Community over the latter's protectionist agricultural policy. The administration and the Euro-

peans are in phase one of a nasty trade war triggered by a boost in Spain's tariffs on \$400 million worth of corn and sorghum. That was a result of sharply higher new levies that Spain was required to put into effect when it joined the EC last year. (There is a similar problem with Portugal that will not surface until later.)

When the Community offered compensation that U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter said was worth only 30 cents on the dollar, Washington retaliated with a boost in tariffs on \$400 million worth of European food and wine to a prohibitive 200 percent. The Europeans are preparing to respond with a punitive list of their own covering U.S. grain.

That is where it stands, with both sides growling at each other, pending a "last chance" meeting to find a compromise in Washington on Jan. 23, when Mr. Yeutter and his opposite number from the EC Commission, Willy de Clercq, get together. "There's a real impasse," says a negotiator on the American side. "Our farmers are hurting, so there is a limit to our ability to be flexible. In Europe, the one country that would be hit hardest if we regain most of our corn sales would be France. And you know the difficulties the French government is in." At the same time, though, European and American officials say privately, in almost identical words, that "the world won't come to an end" if the Jan. 23 deadline is passed. "There'll be some blood on the floor before this case is fixed," a European also says.

Both sides should be condemned for letting the fight get to this stage. If for tax can break down the whole trading system, and simply add fuel to protectionist fires that can flare out of control on Capitol Hill.

Even when settled, as it surely will be, the American-European flap will leave a bad taste in the mouth. It hosts a danger signal for the much-advertised new GATT round of trade talks. If GATT's two biggest powers can get into this kind of nonproductive nit, what hope is there for broadening GATT's sway over new products and services?

The writer teaches political economy at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

Compete by Vision and Sacrifice, Not Quick Fixes

By Robert B. Reich

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — No issue summons more bipartisan support in America, none elicits more unanimous conviction than competitiveness. "We will make America competitive again," says the new speaker of the House.

Competitiveness has become a great national Rorschach test. It is an ink blot in which Americans discern their highest hopes and worst fears. Who can be against it? The country has always thrived on competition—not only in its businesses but also in its cherished pastimes: sports, politics and lawsuits. The idea that America is no longer competitive in world markets has caused a collective slow burn, and everyone seems ready to do something about it.

But do what? When it comes to solutions there is no common ground because the ink blot means different things to different people. Listen carefully and you hear four distinct and mostly incompatible versions: "We're living too high on the hog." This is the version touted by big business. Here the problem is that Americans consume too much and save and invest too little. The answer: Cut wages; lower the minimum wage;

let the dollar drop more; reduce the budget deficit, but not by paring defense or social security; cut government transfer payments (read "welfare") and waste (read "welfare"); tax cuts to stimulate savings by shifting to a value added tax.

"We're victimized by big business and big government." This is the populist version advanced by an assortment of anti-establishment figures ranging from Jack Kemp to Ralph Nader, and even recently by Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige and Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Richard Darman. Here the problem is that Americans' entrepreneurial energies are being sapped by large, gangling, inefficient bureaucracies, both private and public. The answer: Shrink the federal government and rely on local and state initiative; bust up giant corporations by takeovers or antitrust enforcement; rev up venture capitalists by cutting taxes on capital gains; trash business schools and celebrate small businesses and attic entrepreneurs.

"We're being exploited by foreigners who don't play fair." This is

the xenophobic version advanced by some trade unionists, politicians from the rust belt and super-patriots of all stripes. Here the problem is that other countries are not letting Americans in, and we are subsidizing exports to America. The answer: Don't allow them to sell their wares in the United States until they start playing fair; make them reduce their trade surpluses; erect tariffs and quotas against them; require that a certain percentage of all products sold in America be made in America.

"We're not strategic enough." This is the mercantilist version, advanced by America's dominant high-tech companies. Here the problem is that the United States does not have an act sufficiently together to counteract the Japanese. The answer: Relax the antitrust laws so that American companies in the same industry can join forces; provide them with export subsidies, research grants, government contracts; turn universities in the United States into engineering and technology centers for American corporations; and upgrade primary, secondary and vocational education to supply corporations with a steady stream of bright and competent technicians.

Whose version is most convincing—that of big business, populists, xenophobes or mercantilists? It depends on your values. Big business's version is best if you don't mind getting much poorer. The populist version is best if you yearn for the romance of the small-town America of the early 19th century. You should choose the xenophobic version if you are willing to impoverish the rest of the world while imposing huge costs on American consumers. The mercantilist version beats the rest as long as it is all right to sacrifice all other American values to getting rich.

Chances are, you won't be called on to decide among these four contradictory versions. Whatever policies ultimately emerge during the next year for making America competitive will be a compromise between them, reflecting a bit of each. The resulting hodgepodge will be duly celebrated

as a pragmatic solution to the problem. Politicians, corporate executives and the leaders of trade associations and unions will take credit for at least getting something done. An answer thus found, national attention will pass to other matters.

Through it all, the conflicting values dimly suggested by the ink blot called "competitiveness" will remain obscured, and the underlying questions unanswered. How much present income are Americans prepared to yield for the sake of future wealth? How much stability will they surrender in the name of dynamism and risk? How much solidarity should be sacrificed to efficiency? And which Americans shall bear the burden?

The sea of ink spilled on the "competitiveness" issue blots out these underlying choices. Don't expect much from policy fixes that fail to engage them. The issue is Americans' vision of the future and what they are prepared to sacrifice now to achieve it.

The writer teaches political economy at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1912: Against Parades

NEW YORK — Fifth Avenue businessmen are planning a movement which they hope will reduce the number of parades that so frequently give a holiday appearance to the thoroughfare and affect trade. No objection is made to the military displays or other demonstrations, which generally are held on holidays, but merchants cannot see why organizations which also process on business days should be permitted to take possession of Fifth Avenue and distract attention from shopkeepers, who pay high rents and seldom derive any benefit from the crowds. W. Edward Brown, secretary of the Fifth Avenue Association, said: "Every parade on ordinary days means crowded streets, blocked sidewalks and a complete stoppage of business. At our next meeting we will prepare for action."

1937: Anglo-Irish Talks

LONDON — A significant event in Anglo-Irish history took place Jan. 14, when Eamon De Valera, President of the Irish Free State Executive Council, and Malcolm MacDonald, Dominions Secretary, got together and began negotiations with a view to settling the political and economic differences which long have estranged England and Ireland. An important meeting was held on relatively neutral territory—Mr. De Valera's hotel room in Belgrave, not far from Buckingham Palace and Downing Street. It was learned that matters under discussion included the constitutional position between Britain and the Free State, prospects of all-round understanding between the two countries and a possible basis on the recruiting of Spanish volunteers in the Free State.

OPINION

When the Shouting Peaks
The Dream Will Be Over

By A.M. Rosenthal

NEW YORK—South Africa—it is like one of those dreams we all have. The kind where you see something bad about to happen, know exactly what will unfold, cry out in warning but nobody is listening or will hear.

When you visit South Africa, you live in the dream. You know that the repression will get worse. You know the violence will increase. You know people of good heart, white and black, are crying out and are unheard or silenced. You know that in the end there is only one solution—black government shared by whites—but that all the perfectly possible peaceful steps toward it and beyond are now being eliminated, one by one by one, by the violence of oppression begetting violence of resistance.

And you know that the longer it goes on, the more the likelihood of one tyrant replacing another. You know that the

The idea that tyranny
can hide is a fantasy.

Soviet Union and its agents in South Africa are dreaming, too, but not in terror, for their greatest ally toward their goals of domination is the government in Pretoria. The more repressive it is, the more hate is spread, the nearer the goal. Now Pretoria has taken one more step toward the isolation it believes will protect it but which of course will not. The irony of the cultural boycotts and disinvestment movements is that while they are valid expressions of foreign opposition, they are welcomed by the hard-line South Africans in the government, who see Western influence, American particularly, as the real enemy.

This latest step was the decision to close down reporting by New York Times correspondents in South Africa. The government ordered Alan Cowell, the Times correspondent there, who was approaching the end of his tour, to leave the country, and refused to permit Serge Schmemmann, the former Moscow bureau chief of The Times, who had been named his successor, to take up his post. It served notice on other American newspapers that their presence also might not be required.

South Africa is not the only country that prefers not to have American correspondents around to witness what is

going on. Indonesia threw out a Times correspondent while President Reagan was visiting the country, an insult to Mr. Reagan that seemed not to wound him terribly. Various African countries periodically bar all reporters, and earlier in the century I was among those foreign correspondents invited out of Eastern Europe, in any case Poland. As for the Russians, they simply took an American reporter hostage in a totally successful maneuver to swap him for a Soviet spy, thus not only getting their man back but reminding all foreign correspondents in Moscow exactly where they were, in case they might have forgotten.

Why the move against The Times? My own belief is that the security and "information" specialists in Pretoria had found that while the rigid censorship rules prevented the world from witnessing police violence on television, it had not been able to prevent the world from reading about it. The fact is that even abiding by the letter of censorship, an intelligent, skilled and experienced correspondent like Mr. Cowell was able to give the full flavor and a lot of the details about what was taking place in South Africa. We know that, the reader knows it, the South Africans know it.

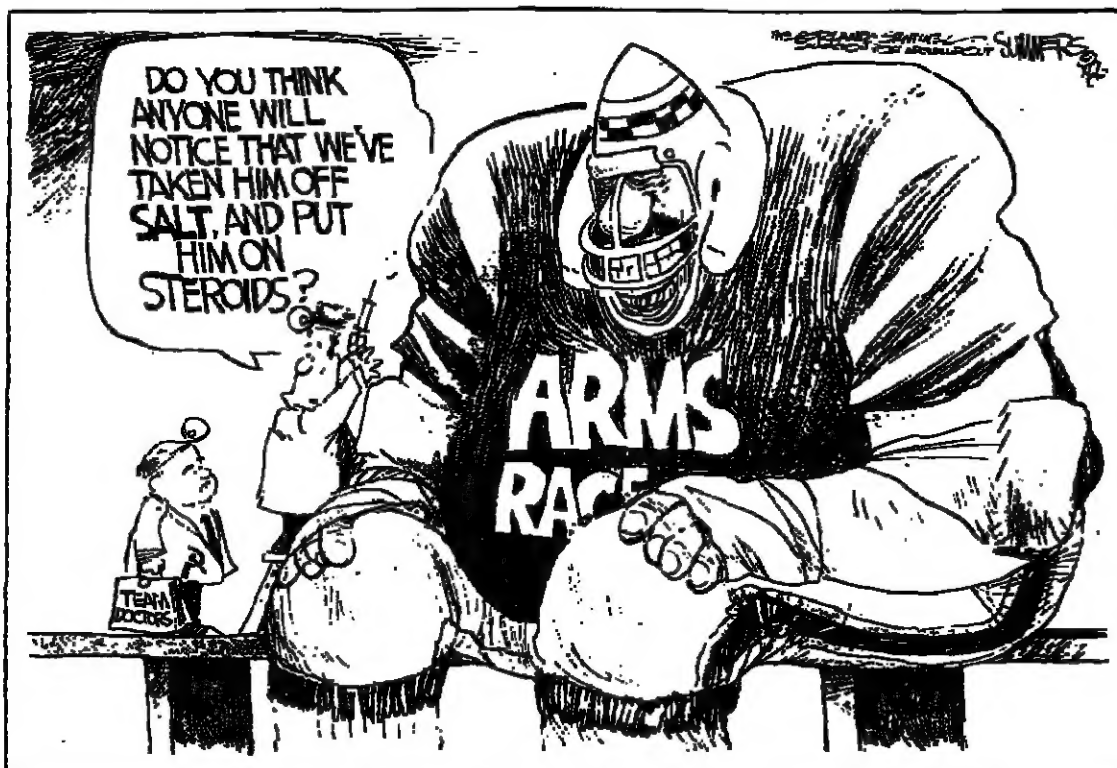
For me it was again the dream, but with a different and more ominous twist. Ten months ago Mr. Cowell was told that he had to get out in a week. I was then the executive editor of The Times and flew to South Africa with my colleague Warren Hoge, now an assistant managing editor, then foreign editor.

We met with Ministry of Interior officials and some pretty vivid things were said. They talked about meddling and distortions and we talked about freedom of the press. Neither side made converts but at the end the top government man present slammed his dossier shut and said that he still did not like Mr. Cowell or The Times, but since I had taken the trouble to fly all that way he could stay. Now the South Africans have so far refused even to see Max Frankel, my successor. While they may relent in the future, they are certainly not nodding and winking in our direction now.

Perhaps they will allow a few American reporters to stay on for a while. But they do seem determined to extend the censorship beyond pictures, beyond the widest possible interpretation of "security" information, and to blank out the Cowells and the Schmemmanns and thus the minds of American readers.

But the idea that reality can be blanked out, that tyranny can hide and be unknown is a fantasy. It has not worked before and will not work now. They dream, the South Africans, and by the time they are shouted into wakefulness it may simply be too late.

The New York Times



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Poland Isn't Czechoslovakia

Regarding "Can't They Even Allow Jazz?" (Dec. 16) by Kurt Vonnegut Jr.:

Before Kurt Vonnegut brackets Poland with Czechoslovakia, he should get the facts straight, or better, visit the country. One of its chief exports is jazz. The rock group Lady Pank (read "punk") regularly makes appearances in the West. And if Mr. Vonnegut likes country music, let him tune in on Polish radio. One of its weekly programs is (or was) "The Road to Nashville." Marlboro, the cigarette brand, sponsors an annual country music festival in Poland in August. The latest rock videocassettes from Britain are broadcast at least once a week on television.

Speaking of television, I would say that at least 75 percent of their dramatic programs are of Western origin: "Fill Street Blues," "East of Eden," "The Muppets," Woody Allen's "Manhattan," Alan Ayckbourn's "Bedroom Farce," to give but a meager sampling. Ditto for the movies. In the theater, Roman Polanski recently appeared in "Amadeus," and musicals from Broadway now on view include "Fiddler on the Roof" and "My Fair Lady." There have been numerous productions of Neil Simon's and Harold Pinter's plays, and the Poles produce everything that Sławomir Mrozek ever wrote.

If Mr. Vonnegut arrives at the airport laden with gifts of Playboy and Rambo-Rock videocassettes, customs will wave him through. Sony and Sanyo videocassette recorders can be bought in the Polish network of dollar shops from one

end of the country to the other. For satellite television, dish antennas are available from a man in Szczecin (his company is called Svensat) who makes them in his garage and sells them to West Germany and other Western countries for something like \$1,000 apiece. There are already 1,000 in Poland, and owning them is perfectly legal, the only hitch being that the owner has to register with the authorities that he owns one.

As Flora Lewis wrote in "For Poles, a Trial by Impotence" (Dec. 5), even the Hungarians envy the Poles their intellectual freedom. So I invite Mr. Vonnegut to visit Poland, after which he will never lump it with Czechoslovakia again.

MARGARET SZMURAK, London.

Surgery for Some Radicals

Stephen M. Walt's opinion column, "It's Time to Deconstruct the American Myth About 'Radical' States" (Dec. 30), cautions American foreign policy makers not to castigate Third World "radical" states and nationalist movements which pose limited threats to fundamental U.S. interests. Mr. Walt states correctly that U.S. hard-line approaches offer Syria and the PLO no alternative but to seek Russian support. However, he fails to point out the difference between nationalist movements that are part of old-fashioned balance of power politics and countries taken over by Marxist-Leninist totalitarianism, such as Nicaragua and Cuba, which form part of the spreading cancer of atheistic communism. The free world should

band together to perform radical surgery on these communists and return their hapless people to freedom.

JOHN G. MCCARTHY Jr., Villars-sur-Ollon, Switzerland.

West Germany in NATO

Considering merely the budget figures is not a good way to evaluate defense contributions. Conscription in West Germany, for instance, produces an essential part of the Western defense capability. I might add—again in response to an opinion column last Nov. 18 by Leonard Sullivan, "Washington Spends Too Much on European Defense"—that the West German government has made an unpopular decision to extend the draft. But that does not look very impressive on the budget scale, since conscription is relatively inexpensive.

West Germany provides 50 percent of NATO land forces in Central Europe, 50 percent of ground air defense and 30 percent of combat aircraft. Efforts to strengthen conventional combat power are being made. Leading officials of the Reagan administration recognize this. They know that the European allies do form a credible conventional deterrent.

Discussion of burden-sharing problems should also include the question of how to improve standardization of weapon systems and other equipment by establishing a real trans-Atlantic two-way street. More U.S. willingness to cooperate in this would be welcome.

KLAUS FRANCKE, Member of the Defense Committee of the Bundestag, Bonn.

How to Attack Terrorism:
The View From Skid Row

By Jeff Dietrich

LOS ANGELES—Rod is standing next to me, an empty green wine bottle clenched in his fist ready to explode into a million shards of glass. His 6-foot-2-inch (1.88-meter) bulk coils and tightens. Great gobs of saliva fly from his mouth as he spits obscenities at me. I am in the grip of sheer terror; adrenaline surges, but it's like a narcotic, reducing my arms and legs to the consistency of overcooked pasta.

I get a lot out of my work in a Skid Row soup kitchen, but a sense of physical security or peaceful surroundings is

MEANWHILE

not among the pluses. Even on the calmest days the anger, violence and insanity are always there, lying like a mine waiting to go off. But it did occur to me recently that living in this sort of war zone gives one an edge over those who have never dealt with terrorists.

Not that Rod is a terrorist in the political sense. He belongs to no organization, espouses no cause or ideology, has received no formal training or discipline and takes orders from no one. In fact, most of the time he is fairly benign. But today, for whatever reason—too long a wait in the soup line, no luck in finding a job, a bad night in the alley—he has turned violent and I am his target.

Ever since the bombing of Libya last spring, we have heard terrorism described as a cancer that can be removed by the military equivalent of radical surgery. This is a simplistic solution that finds its domestic American counterpart in the substitution of prisons and jails for a commitment to jobs, education and housing for all. The real cause of terrorism, both domestic and foreign, is rooted in the injustice of poverty, hunger, homelessness and oppression.

I grew up in a placid suburban community that was the realization of the American dream: secure against poverty and violence, perfect in its serenity. The reality of sufferings on Skid Row shatters that placidity like a brick hurled through a window, offering a glimpse of the pain endured by most of the world.

From Rio to Calcutta, from Soweto to Santo Domingo, most of the world is engaged in a violent struggle merely to survive from one day to the next, and the terrorist is simply the most active combatant in this battle. The desire for security in our homes and our property is natural, but to ignore the reality of the suffering world is to live in a fantasy. How can we feel secure when children die of starvation, families are broken by economic and military violence, human lives and potential are sacrificed daily on the altar of economic necessity?

Flannery O'Connor, the brilliant literary mistress of the macabre, once

wrote, "The only way some people can find God is through an experience of sheer terror." It is at those moments that I have learned the power of prayer, quick and furtive and repetitious—"Lord, deliver us from evil; Lord, deliver us from evil; Lord, deliver us from evil"—anesthetizing the brain, slowing the pulse, stiffening the rubbery limbs. It is prayer under fire, prayer in the trenches, practical prayer that reaches down to a place of strength that is beyond the fear. Pretend that no one can hear the pounding of your heart or smell the stink of your sweat. Get your voice under control, slowly reach out your hand. Now, standing before Rod, I hear my voice speaking with all the bluff and bravado of an animal trainer, pretending a calm that I do not feel, knowing that any hint of fear on my part will surely invite disaster.

"Rod, give me the bottle and I'll bring you a tray of food. Go on outside. You're too agitated to eat in here."

"O.K., punk, but be quick about it," he says, handing me the bottle. I grasp the neck so as not to inadvertently release the imaginary arming mechanism, and carefully drop it in the trash can, making a silent promise to be more vigilant about picking up such weapons when I see them on the sidewalk.

This is not the first time Rod has terrorized us. Once, after an epic struggle, we "banned" him for an entire year. I used to think our methods of dealing with terrorism—prayer and nonviolence—were hopelessly idealistic and impractical. Then I heard that a security guard in a similar Skid Row institution was murdered with his own gun during a struggle with an irate client. So much for the use of force. We figure that we might as well stick to our principles.

After Rod finishes eating, he is much calmer, almost affable, so I take the opportunity to tell him that he will be banned for a week because of the disturbance that he caused in the kitchen.

"The hell with you, punk. I don't want your food anyway," he says, turning on his heel and walking away.

I am fully aware that it is 1987 and that idealism, as a basis of national policy, is about as fashionable as bell-bottom trousers and love beads. So I won't even suggest prayer and nonviolence as a means of combating terrorism. I am convinced, however, that you cannot end it by bombing children in Libya, or by jailing the poor in your own nation. Any effective program to end terrorism must begin with a commitment to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and shelter the homeless.

The writer is a member of the Los Angeles Catholic Worker community. He contributed this column to the Los Angeles Times.

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Moslems Attack in 4 Provinces in Philippines

By Gregg Jones

MANILA — One person was killed and 17 others were wounded in a wave of Moslem rebel bombings and attacks in four southern Philippine provinces, the police said Wednesday.

(Hashim Salamat, a leader of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, a guerrilla organization seeking autonomy in several provinces on southern Mindanao island, said in Saudi Arabia that his group was responsible for the attacks. The Associated Press reported. He said more attacks would be launched as part of a "long struggle" which he said "was never suspended.")

The attacks were viewed here as a setback to Mrs. Aquino's efforts to negotiate a peaceful end to nearly two decades of Moslem fighting in the south.

The renewed violence also called into question Mrs. Aquino's decision to negotiate with only one of three Moslem rebel factions, that led by another Moro National Liberation Front leader, Nur Misuari. Mr. Misuari has said his group would accept regional autonomy instead of independence. The agreement was denounced by Mr. Salamat, who also wants autonomy but opposes the Misuari group.

Aquilino Pimentel, Mrs. Aquino's national affairs minister in charge of the government's Mindanao peace committee, said the attacks proved the need to bring other factions on the island into the peace process.

Speaking after meeting with Mrs. Aquino and advisers, Mr. Pimentel said that because only Mr. Misuari was "really brought into the peace process, I was sure these things were bound to happen."

In 14 apparently coordinated attacks beginning Tuesday night and continuing until Wednesday morning, the rebels blew up and burned bridges, power pylons, government buildings and businesses.

Military authorities said about 300 guerrillas set up checkpoints in one town to distribute leaflets that said the attacks were aimed at stopping Mrs. Aquino's weekend visit to Mindanao. She plans to campaign there for ratification of a new constitution in a plebiscite Feb. 2.

A palace spokesman announced later Wednesday that Mrs. Aquino would proceed with the trip.



Communists held a rally Wednesday in Manila's Tondo district as 'part of a dialogue with the urban poor.' About 300 district residents attended. At left is Saturnino

Ocampo, the chief spokesman for the outlawed Communist Party. Mr. Ocampo helped negotiate the 60-day cease-fire between the Aquino government and Communist rebels.

REAGAN: Strains From Health Problems, Iran Crisis Raise New Concern

(Continued from Page 1)

however, not because the president had rejected their ideas but because many of his responses had little to do with their proposals, according to five leaders who attended the session. His responses led some of the leaders to wonder if he had understood the issues they had raised.

At one point, Representative Robert H. Michel of Illinois, the House minority leader, urged the president to indicate his support of a federal insurance plan to cover catastrophic illnesses. Mr. Reagan responded by talking about a New York City welfare family living in a plush hotel at extravagant cost. Other leaders explained that catastrophic health insurance was not a welfare program, but Mr. Reagan reiterated the welfare family story.

Some of those attending were dismayed at what they viewed as the president's inability to grasp this issue and some of the others that were raised.

But one senator suggested that the president's responses at the White House meeting might have been deliberate.

"He didn't care sometimes about the issues," said the senator, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "It wasn't as if he was missing the issues as much as he wanted to

address them from a different vantage point."

Senator Orrin G. Hatch, Republican of Utah, thought the president had generally acquitted himself well in a wide-ranging discussion.

"He was responding, not necessarily on point," said Mr. Hatch.

"If you're asking has this Iran-contra thing affected him, certainly it's affected him. But he's never been much for details."

—Robert H. Michel, House minority leader

adding that he could not be expected to be familiar with all the subjects raised.

A White House aide said that he had not seen any change in Mr. Reagan's mental capacity or outlook in recent months.

"I've sat in on a lot of cabinet meetings in the last month, and I've seen no change in his wit or his grasp of subjects," he said.

Similarly, Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, asked at a news conference Tuesday about the president's mental state, replied: "He is an astonishingly strong and able person. He is very attentive.

He has a very clear and good grasp of all the things that are going on."

But some White House aides have described the president as "depressed" because of the Iran controversy and his medical problems. And his mental outlook and grasp of issues have become a matter of increasing concern among

senators to conduct covert operations, the senator said.

The senator replied that Congress merely required being informed of such operations and said that in fact the United States conducted covert operations all over the world and that the president recently had authorized such an operation "in country X."

The president had no such recollection, the senator said, until he was reminded by Vice President George Bush. But, undaunted, the president returned to his original theme: Congress had made it "impossible for the government to conduct covert operations."

Mr. Michel, the House Republican leader, was asked if the stress of the investigations into the Iran arms sales and their link to aid for the rebels in Nicaragua, known as contra, had affected the president. He replied: "If you're asking has this Iran-contra thing affected him, certainly it's affected him." He would not elaborate, adding only: "He's never been much for details."

■ **Speakes Assails Report**
The chief White House spokesman, Larry Speakes, criticized The New York Times report and said Thursday that members of Congress who have voiced concern over Mr. Reagan "don't know what they are talking about," United Press International reported.

Mr. Speakes said The Times, its reporter and those who spoke with him "ought to be ashamed of themselves," and called the story's premise "wrong, absolutely wrong" and "foolish."

"I don't think anybody is qualified to comment" on the president's condition, Mr. Speakes said. "They don't know what they're talking about, simple as that. Bug off."

AID: CIA and Contras

(Continued from Page 1)

lion on communications equipment and training.

"We gave Bill Casey the crack in the door, through which he drove some very serious aid and assistance," said one intelligence committee member, a Democrat who opposes contra aid. "I believe it was all done legally."

Two other members of congressional intelligence committees, one Democrat and the other Republican, disputed this. They said they believed the administration and CIA exceeded the authority permitted under the law.

The question of CIA assistance is expected to be investigated by the new Senate and House committees set up to inquire into the affair of U.S. arms sales to Iran and the diversion of some of the proceeds to the contras.

There have been assertions that CIA operatives in Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica provided the contras considerable assistance last year in the war against the Sandinistas. There has been no conclusive evidence to date, however, that the agency gave assistance beyond the help allowed by Congress.

■ Vance Criticizes Policy

Cyrus R. Vance, secretary of state under President Jimmy Carter, told Congress on Wednesday that the Reagan administration's Iran policy has had an "extremely negative" impact on U.S. standing as a credible world leader. The Associated Press reported from Washington.

Shultz Urges Moscow Embassy Worker Doe to Open Politics In Liberia

By Don Oberdorfer

Washington Post Service

United Press International

MONROVIA, Liberia — George F. Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state, arrived here Wednesday for talks with President Samuel K. Doe and immediately urged the government to change its economic policy and its political process.

Several opposition leaders were invited to meet Mr. Shultz during his six-hour stay, a clear signal to Mr. Doe's government that it should take steps to open up its political process.

Mr. Shultz said that he planned "a frank and full exchange of views" with Mr. Doe and other senior Liberian officials. "I note the importance of the process of political reconciliation and applaud and encourage progress in that effort," he said on arrival.

"On economic matters," Mr. Shultz said, "Liberia is experiencing difficulties and must make changes in its economic policy—a situation not unique to Liberia."

Mr. Doe, who took power in a coup in 1980, was elected president in general elections in October 1985. But the election results have been disputed, and an official ban on disseminating "rumors or misinformation" remains in force.

While Mr. Doe has ordered political prisoners freed and lifted a ban on travel by opposition members, the Reagan administration would like further steps to be taken toward an open political system.

Washington has held up \$15 million in aid to Monrovia because the government has fallen behind in repaying U.S. loans. Liberia's economy has been hurt by low commodity prices and deficit spending. Its principal exports are iron ore, rubber and timber.

Besides Liberia, Mr. Shultz has visited Senegal, Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria and Ivory Coast. He was returning to Washington on Wednesday.

WASHINGTON — A U.S. Marine Corps security guard being held on suspicion of helping Soviet agents spy on the U.S. Embassy in Moscow was released and recruited by a Soviet citizen who worked at the embassy, State Department sources said Tuesday.

Department officials said the case of Sergeant Clayton J. Lonetree, 25, was being treated as a serious breach of security, although an assessment of the extent of the damage was not complete.

Sergeant Lonetree turned himself in late last year in Vienna, according to the sources. He had been assigned to the U.S. Embassy there after leaving Moscow in March.

He is said to have become alarmed after being contacted by Soviet agents in Vienna and asked to perform increasingly serious espionage activities.

Sergeant Lonetree is being held at the U.S. Marine Corps base in Quantico, Virginia, while awaiting a military hearing to determine charges, according to Marine officials.

The sergeant was assigned to the embassy in Moscow in September 1984, but officials would not say when his liaison began with the female embassy employee. She is believed to have recruited him to cooperate with the KGB, the Soviet secret police and intelligence agency.

U.S. Marine security guards patrol embassy buildings, dispose of "burn bags" containing confidential information and check for security violations.

The Washington Times newspaper reported Tuesday that Sergeant Lonetree was suspected of permitting KGB spies to enter the Moscow embassy and of helping the KGB install listening devices in the Moscow and Vienna embassies. Officials would not confirm this report.

Following the expulsion of Soviet diplomatic personnel from the United States last fall, Soviet au-

thorities withdrew Soviet nationals from support jobs at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and the U.S. consulate in Leningrad.

In a related development, officials at several U.S. agencies said the White House decided last week not to issue a new National Security Decision Memorandum that would have given the Justice Department much greater authority in screening Soviet diplomats seeking to enter the United States.

A spokesman for the State Department, which has primary responsibility for the entry of Soviet diplomats, said Moscow reportedly had been informed that it would not be allowed to use its diplomatic facilities for espionage purposes.

EC Commission Says Delphi Site Must Be Spared

Reuters

BRUSSELS — The site of the Greek temple of Delphi, threatened by plans for an aluminum mine, must be preserved undamaged, the European Community's Executive Commission declared in a statement Tuesday.

The EC cultural commissioner, Carlos Ripa di Meana, said the commission would deplore any move that damaged the location of the temple and oracle of Apollo at Delphi, which was considered in antiquity to be the center of the world.

The statement was in a reply to a question in the European Parliament about a plan for an aluminum mine. A French member of the Parliament, Pierre Lataillade, asked for action to protect the area, much of which remains to be excavated. He said it was "in imminent danger of destruction" from the mine, which would be financed by the Greek government.

Mr. Ripa di Meana said, "The commission can only deplore in the strongest terms any damage caused to the sacred site at Delphi." A spokesman for the Greek delegation in Brussels said that the government in Athens was still considering whether it should go ahead with the mine.

COLD: France Calls Out Troops

(Continued from Page 1)

milk since Saturday, and some village stores have run out of food.

Belgium reported its first death, that of a 29-year-old man who apparently froze in his car after it broke down.

Near Venice, a 53-year-old man who fell from his bicycle and into a ditch froze to death, ANSA news agency reported. The body, covered by snow, was found by a worker spreading salt on a road.

In Hungary, four persons froze to death, the news agency MTI reported.

In Skane province in southern Sweden, temperatures fell to minus 15 degrees centigrade (5 degrees Fahrenheit) after a blizzard. People were warned that they risked death if they went outdoors.

In some areas of Sweden, above the Arctic Circle, weather stations said temperatures had risen from minus 42 centigrade (minus 44 degrees Fahrenheit) to 0 degrees centigrade (32 degrees Fahrenheit).

"We almost had a heat stroke when the thermometer shot up," said Nils-Erik Vasara at the Naimakka weather station.

In Iceland, spring-like weather has produced temperatures of about 10 degrees centigrade (50 degrees Fahrenheit) for a week, and

the only snow was in the mountains. The national weather bureau said warm spells were not unusual in winter, especially when northern Europe is gripped by cold.

Southern Europe did not escape the cold weather. Portugal reported freezing temperatures and fresh snow fell on Barcelona.

In the Soviet Union, Muscovites enjoyed a brief respite as temperatures rose above minus 20 degrees centigrade (minus 4 degrees Fahrenheit). Temperatures also rose in Italy and in much of West Germany.

Forecasters said the temperature was expected to plunge again by the weekend. Most forecasts were for the bitter cold to persist at least until early next week.

Ice-breakers worked to keep Atlantic and Baltic ports open. The Polish ports of Gdansk and Szczecin were reported working at a third of capacity.

In West Germany, frozen switches delayed many commuter trains. Wolfgang Gehrke, a spokesman for the West German railroad in Mainz, said coal on freight trains "had frozen into one solid lump" and could not be unloaded.

A few European airports closed briefly Tuesday, but most have not been affected by the weather. (AP, Reuters)

STRAUSS: Call for German Pride

(Continued from Page 1)

this is a job that Hans-Dietrich Genscher has held since 1974; Mr. Genscher's Free Democratic Party has made it clear that retaining the Foreign Ministry is a condition for remaining as junior partner in the coalition.

One chance for Mr. Strauss would be that the governing Christian Democrats would win a clear majority of seats in the Bundestag, a prospect that in an interview he called unlikely but not altogether impossible. Another would be that the Free Democrats do so poorly in the Jan. 25 voting that their claim to the Foreign Ministry would become untenable.

Yet Mr. Strauss has such a polarizing effect on the voters that the more he rails at the Free Democrats the higher they seem to jump in the opinion polls. The prospect of Mr. Strauss becoming foreign minister makes certain Germans determined to vote for Mr. Genscher's party.

Conversing on the way to Augsburg, Mr. Strauss said that he had not yet decided whether to leave Munich for Bonn after the election, which he predicted the coalition partners would win with 55 percent

of the popular vote. "And even if it had been decided, I wouldn't say so," he joked.

But he hinted that he was thinking about Bonn by suggesting that the Christian Social Union, his Bavarian sister organization of the Christian Democratic Party, could run its affairs without his being in Munich.

"One cannot think that one is indispensable," he said.

He softened an accusation made in campaigning that the Free Democrats were "an unreliable partner," saying this applied mainly to the area of internal security where they have balked at a proposal for granting pardons to terrorists who turn state's evidence. "And we have never understood what Genscher means when he talks about a 'new phase of détente,'" Mr. Strauss added.

Asked about his forceful summons for a new German identity, Mr. Strauss said that Bonn's allies should have "the biggest interest" in a self-reliant West Germany. He added that Bonn "must be ready to take over a certain measure of global political responsibility," in keeping with American demands to do so.

Sir Warwick Fairfax Is Dead at 85

Reuters

SYDNEY — Sir Warwick Fairfax, 85, a key figure in Australian publishing for most of this century, died of natural causes Wednesday, a company spokeswoman said.

Sir Warwick was a director and past chairman of the media group John Fairfax & Sons Ltd., which since 1831 has published one of the country's most prestigious newspapers, The Sydney Morning Herald. He was chairman of the company from 1956 to 1977.

Other newspapers in the group include The Age of Melbourne, The Sun of Sydney and the Australia

Financial Review. The group also has major radio and television interests.

Anatoli Efros, 61, Dies; Director of Moscow Theater

MOSCOW (AP) — Anatoli V. Efros, 61, chief director at the avant-garde Taganka Theatre in Moscow, has died of a heart attack, the official press agency Tass reported.

Mr. Efros, who died Tuesday, became the Taganka's chief director in 1984 after Yuri P. Lyubimov, a pioneering stage figure, refused to return to the Soviet Union from the

West, where he had gone to produce his stage version of Dostoyevski's "Crime and Punishment."

■ Other deaths:

Harold Ehot Krenis, 42, whose struggle to overcome blindness and become independent was the inspiration for the Broadway play "Butterflies Are Free," of a brain tumor Monday in New York.

Glen (Ode) Odelek, 81, the designer and builder of Howard Hughes' giant "Spruce Goose" flying boat, which flew only once, in Las Vegas.

DEATH NOTICE

PHILIP S. HOFMANN ON DEC. 26 1986 AT THE MIAMI Heart Institute in Miami, Florida. Retired chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Johnson & Johnson New Brunswick, New Jersey. Funeral services were held in Miami on January 1, and Memorial services were held in Miami on January 2 and New Brunswick, New Jersey on January 3. Surviving are his wife Georgia Hofmann of Indian Creek Village, Miami, Florida. Judy Hofmann Richner of Bedford, New York. Carol Thompson of Colts Neck, New Jersey, and two grandsons.

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SCIENCE

IN BRIEF

Skeleton of Large Mastodon Found

WASHINGTON (WP) — The fossil skeleton of the world's largest known mastodon, an extinct relative of the elephant, has been discovered in central Florida.

The beast stood 12 feet (3.6 meters) tall at the shoulder, half again taller than the typical mastodon and about 20 percent taller than the previous record holder, a skeleton found in Mongolia. The Florida mastodon, which lived about 7 million years ago, also had four tusks, each jutting about six feet out from the skull, two from the upper jaw and two from the lower jaw.

"It's a little astonishing. It's probably a new species to science," said David Webb, curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Florida State Museum, who has been excavating at the site south of Gainesville. The site appears to have been a prehistoric water hole where animals came to drink and where some became trapped in the soft clay bottom.

Hawaii Has King-Size Raindrops

WASHINGTON (WP) — Some of the world's biggest raindrops, measuring as much as a third of an inch across, have been photographed falling over Hawaii.

The record-holding raindrop is a 9-millimeter one, just over a third of an inch, seen by the Illinois State Water Survey in Champaign during a 1953 thunderstorm. Scientists had thought such fat drops were rare and short-lived because collisions with other drops would break them up.

A report in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*, however, reveals that 8-millimeter raindrops were fairly common in a storm that Kenneth Beard, a cloud physicist at the University of Illinois, photographed in Hawaii in 1985. His photographs also showed that the drops survived for a surprisingly long average of 10 minutes. The findings are of interest because the interpretation of weather radar scans depends on assumptions about sizes of the raindrops reflecting the radar beam back to the weather station.

AIDS Antibodies Found In Plasma

NEW YORK (NYT) — Scientists have found that blood plasma of some persons infected with the AIDS virus has large quantities of antibodies that inactivate the virus in the test tube.

The New York Blood Center is seeking plasma donations from people infected with the virus to collect more of these antibodies for further research. The plasma itself will be used only for the AIDS research. It has long been known that AIDS victims usually have detectable antibodies against the virus, but in most cases these appear to give the patient no protection against the deadly acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.

If some people do have antibodies that actually protect against the virus, it might be possible to purify these antibodies so that they could be administered under special circumstances for temporary protection of persons such as dentists, surgeons and other hospital workers who may often encounter AIDS patients' blood. Recent studies at the center showed that blood samples from about 50 of 500 infected people had large quantities of the antibodies, said Dr. Louis Baker of the blood center. The ability to kill virus in the test tube does not necessarily prove that an agent will protect against infection.

Vaccine Against Cat Parasite Found

NEW YORK (UPI) — Scientists say a newly developed vaccine for cats may prevent pregnant women from picking up a disease from the felines that causes birth defects. The widely feared disease, toxoplasmosis, caused by the transmission of a parasite from cats to humans, is responsible for about 3,000 birth defects each year, said the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation, which announced the discovery.

Toxoplasmosis can also cause brain damage and death in people with diseases such as AIDS that suppress the immune system, doctors said. The potential vaccine, administered to cats rather than humans, has proven successful in laboratory trials on the animals, said the March of Dimes, based in White Plains, New York.

But the agency warned it may take years for the vaccine to pass the efficacy and safety trials needed before it can be made commercially available.

Understanding Snowflakes

By James Gleick
New York Times Service

SCIENCE has conquered the snowflake problem.

In resolving two of nature's most poetic and maddening riddles — why are snowflakes symmetrical, and why are they all different — theoretical physicists have created a new body of mathematics for the laws that control the delicate branching growth of an unstable solidifying crystal.

Snowflakes have become part of a growing science of pattern formation that is drawing together theorists, computer modelers, and engineers with practical problems ranging from metallurgy to flame propagation to oil recovery.

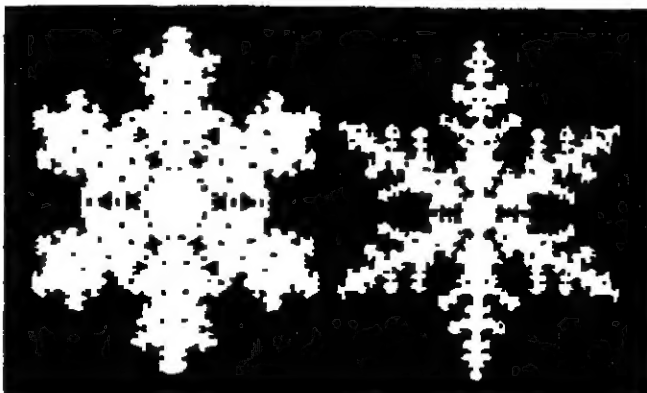
Generations of snowflake-watchers sketched and catalogued the patterns formed by airborne ice crystals: plates and columns, crystals and polycrystals, needles and dendrites. But snowflakes obey mathematical laws of surprising subtlety, and it has been impossible to predict precisely how fast a tip will grow, how narrow it will be, or how often it will branch.

"In the last two years, those problems have been solved," said Herbert Levine of the Schlumberger-Doll Research Center in Connecticut.

"We've reached a very interesting point scientifically where we're starting to look at a whole bunch of older problems of pattern formation in nature, how complex formations emerge out of a generally featureless soup," said James S. Langer of the Institute for Theoretical Physics in Santa Barbara, California. "We finally seem to have a good idea of what controls these things."

A key to the new approach has been the availability of computers with which scientists could propose models, test them, make pictures of the results, and then improve their models. Only recently, though, after more than five years of research by several groups, have computer simulations succeeded in realistically capturing the physics of crystal growth.

One problem is that such growth



Computer simulations of snowflake patterns.

entails, as Dr. Langer says, "a highly non-linear, unstable free boundary problem," meaning that models need to track a complex, wiggly boundary that changes dynamically. "That's tough, trying to understand where this boundary is moving. If you guess wrong, the computer program just blows up on you."

Another problem has been deciding which of the physical forces involved are important and which can be ignored. Most important, as scientists have long realized, is the diffusion of the heat released when water freezes.

When solidification proceeds from outside to inside, as in an ice tray, the boundary remains stable and liquid generally remains stable and smooth, at a speed controlled by the ability of the walls to draw away the heat. But when a crystal solidifies outward from an initial seed — as a snowflake does, grabbing water molecules while it falls through the moist air — the process becomes unstable.

Any bit of boundary that gets out ahead of its neighbors gains an advantage in picking up new water molecules and therefore grows that much faster — the "lightning-rod effect." Tips, or "dendrites," form, moving rapidly outward and tending to give birth to subbranches.

This much has been known for years. But the physics of heat diffusion and unstable growth cannot

explain the patterns scientists observe when they look at snowflakes under microscopes or grow them in the laboratory. Recently, Dr. Langer's group in California and Dr. Levine's in Connecticut separately worked out a way to incorporate another process: surface tension.

Where diffusion creates instability, surface tension creates stability, preferring smooth boundaries like the wall of a soap bubble. It costs energy to make surfaces that are rough. And where diffusion is mainly a large-scale, macroscopic process, surface tension is strongest at the microscopic scales.

The competition between these forces makes for tricky mathematics, since the equations must relate scales of millimeters to scales of molecules. Traditionally, physicists assumed that for practical purposes they could disregard the tiny surface-tension effects. "That turned out to be just wrong," Dr. Levine said. "The breakthrough was showing that by throwing away this particular physical effect one was throwing away the right solution to the problem."

The reason is that the surface effects prove much more sensitive to the molecular crystal structure of a solidifying substance — in the case of ice, a natural hexagonal configuration. That gives ice a built-in preference for six directions of growth.

In effect, a snowflake records the

history of the changing weather conditions it has experienced. As a growing flake falls to earth, typically floating in the wind for an hour or more, the choices made by the branching tips at any instant depend on such things as the temperature, the humidity, and the presence of impurities in the atmosphere.

The nature of turbulent air is such that any two snowflakes will follow very different paths, and enough combinations of patterns are possible to more than justify the folklore that all snowflakes are different. But why are all six arms of a snowflake alike?

"Lots of people have thought that there has to be some mechanical equivalent of somebody sitting at the center of the snowflake and telling all of them to do the same thing," Dr. Langer said.

But first of all, careful examination shows that snowflakes are not exactly symmetrical. And second, the six arms of one snowflake, less than a millimeter across, will have experienced nearly identical growing conditions — much closer than any two snowflakes experience, and close enough to explain their similarity.

In metallurgy, specialists seek a precise understanding of what controls the speed of crystal growth and the degree of irregularity because these, in turn, often control the tensile strength of an alloy after it solidifies.

"There's a brand new interaction between technology and science, connected largely by the computer," Dr. Langer said. "People in industry say, 'We're dealing with more and more complex systems, and we're not going to do it by hand-and-find any more — it's too tough.'"

Meanwhile, physics groups at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, in Paris, and the California Institute of Technology, in Pasadena, are pursuing the new approach to pattern formation, and a physicist at Emory University, in Atlanta, Ferdynand Family, has used the mathematics to create startlingly lifelike computer pictures of snowflakes.



Multiple exposure of dendrite growth, magnified 40 times.

One computer snowflake, an aggregation of 10,000 or more particles, requires about eight hours of high-speed calculation, and very slight changes in temperature or humidity produce vivid changes in the resulting patterns, Dr. Family said.

Experimentalists, too, are pushing the science of pattern formation forward. Jerry P. Gollub, a physicist at Haverford College and the University of Pennsylvania, has conducted a series of experiments designed to shed light on the precise shape of the convoluted structures that appear behind the growing tip of a dendrite. In the back of their minds, many of these physicists nurse a belief that their work on pattern formation may apply to developmental biology as well.

Some types of algae, for example, closely resemble patterns under investigation by physicists.

"There is a clear connection between this problem of stability and the early differentiation of certain organisms when they start from an egg and gradually acquire structure," Dr. Gollub said. "What we're really doing is pushing science in a new direction through a simultaneous development in mathematics and experiment."

"On the one hand, snowflakes are important because there are lots of crystals in nature, but, in the long run, I think the most important aspect will be this general development of tools and ways of thinking. It is those things that are most likely to carry over into other areas of investigation."

INTERNATIONAL POSITIONS



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NYSE Most Actives		
NYSE 3 p.m. volume	184,900	
NYSE adv. cons. close	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. open	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. close	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. open	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. close	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. open	14,260	

Market Sales		
NYSE 3 p.m. volume	184,900	
NYSE adv. cons. close	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. open	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. close	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. open	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. close	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. open	14,260	

NYSE Index		
Composite	1,237.12	
Industries	1,237.12	
Finance	1,237.12	
Utilities	1,237.12	
Transport	1,237.12	
Real Estate	1,237.12	
Commodities	1,237.12	
Foreign	1,237.12	

Wednesday's
NYSE
3 p.m.
Via The Associated Press

AMEX Diary		
Not available at press time		

NASDAQ Index		
Composite	1,237.12	
Industries	1,237.12	
Finance	1,237.12	
Utilities	1,237.12	
Transport	1,237.12	
Real Estate	1,237.12	
Commodities	1,237.12	
Foreign	1,237.12	

AMEX Most Actives		
Not available at press time		

Dow Jones Bond Averages		
NYSE 3 p.m. volume	184,900	
NYSE adv. cons. close	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. open	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. close	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. open	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. close	14,260	
NYSE adv. cons. open	14,260	

NYSE Diary		
Not available at press time		

Odd-Lot Trading in N.Y.		
Not available at press time		

Dow Jones Averages		
Not available at press time		

Standard & Poor's Index		
Not available at press time		

Previous NASDAQ Diary		
Not available at press time		

AMEX Stock Index		
Not available at press time		

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div. Yld.	PE	52 Wk. High	52 Wk. Low	3 P.M. Close
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27%	17		AAR		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAI		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAJ		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAK		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAL		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAM		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAN		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAP		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAR		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAI		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAJ		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAK		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAL		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAM		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAN		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAP		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAR		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAI		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAJ		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAK		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAL		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAM		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAN		44	14	27	27
27%	17		AAP		44	14	27	27
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FROM 1875...

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BUSINESS/FINANCE

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...TO
TOMORROW'S
WORLD
In Touch with Tomorrow
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THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1987

WALL STREET WATCH

Leaner Oil-Service Industry
Leads Varied List of GainersBy VARTANIC G. VARTAN
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Large-capitalization issues — drugs, papers and oils, among others — figure prominently on the expanding list of stocks scoring new 52-week highs on the New York Stock Exchange. But the market's broad advance also saw new highs set last week by components of the long-depressed oil-service industry, as well as by stocks in such "niche" sectors as check printers, funeral-related businesses and New Jersey home builders.

In the oil-service group, both Halliburton and Dresser Industries, benefiting from rising prices for crude oil and Wall Street's renewed interest in energy stocks, traded last week at their highest levels since 1981.

Tuesday, Halliburton fell 87.5 cents to \$29.75, while Dresser was unchanged at \$23.50.

In recent years, the sharp contraction in oil-drilling activity has caused huge price declines in this group. Halliburton reached a high of \$86.37 in late 1980, when Dresser's shares also fetched their record price of \$57.

Last October, when Halliburton was selling at \$22 and Dresser was trading at \$18, Sandi Haber Sweeney, an analyst at Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., recommended their purchase.

"I would continue to be a buyer of both stocks," she said this week. "The companies have strong balance sheets, and they have done an excellent job of downsizing their operations. That means they now enjoy the potential of earnings leverage when drilling activity starts to rebound. My top choices in the industry now are Baker International and Schlumberger."

Tuesday, Baker eased 62.5 cents, to \$14.125, while Schlumberger, the industry leader, declined 37.5 cents to \$36.275, after reaching a 52-week high on Monday. In December, Paine Webber upgraded its opinion on Schlumberger to attractive from unattractive.

AMONG funeral-related stocks, brighter earnings prospects have sent Hillenbrand Industries and Service Corp. International to record levels. Hillenbrand, the leading maker of coffins, was unchanged Tuesday at \$50.625. Shares of Service Corp., the largest U.S. funeral service and cemetery company, closed at \$38.75, up 75 cents.

Analysts said that in recent years both companies had benefited from acquisitions, new products, improved profit margins and increased market share as smaller competitors have left the field. "An industrywide consolidation is likely to help Hillenbrand's casket business," said Christian Woschenko of the Value Line Investment Survey. For the year that ended Nov. 30, he estimates earnings at \$2.50 a share, up from \$1.69 the previous year.

Value Line awards Hillenbrand its top "timeliness" rating as an investment in the next 12 months. The company also manufactures hospital equipment, meat, luggage and security locks.

At Service Corp., Mr. Woschenko expects profits for the year ending April 30 to increase to \$1.90 a share from the previous year's \$1.62. The company expanded its business in 1985 with the acquisition of American, the nation's No. 2 coffin producer.

The two leading U.S. printers of bank checks, Deluxe Check Printers and John H. Harland, together account for about 75 percent of the output of this industry. Tuesday, Deluxe was unchanged at \$38, while Harland declined 50 cents, to \$51.25.

Deluxe is rated as a "strong hold" after its recent sharp run-up by David L. Jarrett of Tucker, Anthony. He estimates earnings at \$1.40 a share for 1986 and at \$1.75 for this year. In 1985, Deluxe earned \$1.22 a share. The analyst carries a "buy/hold" opinion on Harland, which earned \$1.77 a share in 1985. Profits are estimated at \$2.10 a share for last year and at \$2.55 for 1987.

Two home builders that derive much of their growth from the New Jersey housing market — Toll Brothers and Hovnanian Enterprises — also scored highs in recent days. Toll, which went public last July at \$12.50, finished Tuesday at \$19.375, up 12.5 cents. Hovnanian, whose shares tripled in value last year closed on the American Stock Exchange at \$22, down 62.5 cents.

Check printers,
home builders
are among those
doing well.Banks Get
Leeway on
SecuritiesU.S. Court Lifts
Curbs on Outlets

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court cleared the way Wednesday for national banks to establish discount securities brokerage outlets wherever they want.

The 8-0 decision was seen as a victory for the banks and the Reagan administration, which supports financial deregulation, and a blow to the securities industry.

Justice Byron R. White, writing for the court, said the U.S. comptroller of the currency may approve plans by national banks to offer securities brokerage services.

A federal law that limits branch banking activities, the 1927 McFadden Act, does not apply to establishing a securities business, Justice White wrote.

"The comptroller reasonably interprets the statute as requiring competitive equality only in core banking functions, and not in all incidental services," he said. "A discount brokerage service is not a core banking function."

In 1982, the comptroller had approved plans by two national banks — Security Pacific Corp., with offices in California and elsewhere in the West, and Union Planters National Bank of Memphis, Tennessee — to enter the discount brokerage business.

But a federal appeals court, ruling in favor of the securities industry in 1985, limited banks' expansion into the sale of securities. That court said national banks may conduct brokerage activities only at established bank branch offices.

Until Wednesday's reversal by the Supreme Court, the decision had effectively prohibited banks from crossing state lines to set up brokerage outlets or from creating offices for selling securities within the bank's home state.

Security Pacific set up a brokerage business and Union Planters purchased Bremer Stead and Associates Inc., a Memphis brokerage. The banks and the administration asked the Supreme Court to overturn the appeals court ruling.

The comptroller of the currency is considering more than 60 applications by banks to enter the business of discount securities trading. [The ruling is expected to have the greatest impact on smaller and medium-sized banks wanting to get into the discount brokerage business, Reuters reported. Bank holding companies already may offer discount brokerage services.]

Conable Plans Tighter World Bank
'Restructuring' May Reduce Work Force by 20 PercentBy Clyde H. Farnsworth
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The World Bank calls it a "restructuring," the first major one in 15 years. But to some of the organization's 6,500 employees, it is more like the sword of Damocles.

Although no decisions are likely before spring, the exercise to slim down the 41-year-old global lender is already causing anxiety at its headquarters, three blocks from the White House.

Early reports suggest that the rolls may be cut by as much as 20 percent, dropping staff size to levels of the late 1970s.

For years, the perception in many quarters around Washington, especially on Capitol Hill, has been that the bank, whose staff has quadrupled in less than two decades, has grown obese and provides its employees with too many fringe benefits and perquisites.

The United States is the largest supporter of the bank, providing about 20 percent of its money, and these funds must be approved by Congress, which in these times of budgetary restraint is keeping a sharp eye out for waste.

"This review is long overdue," said one of the bank's congressional critics, Representative Jerry Lewis, Republican of California.

At the bank itself, "a lot of people are wondering where they will be in a year," said one nervous loan officer.

Some staff members, many of whom spoke on condition their names not be used, said they had had to take on a bigger work load as the contemplated reorganization has meant that vacancies are not being filled.

"In my debt division," said Jean Baneth, director of the economic analysis and projections department, "we are handling a volume of data twice as high as



Barber B. Conable Jr.

five years ago, with only a 6 percent increase in staff."

The overhaul was initiated by the bank's new president, Barber B. Conable Jr., a former Republican congressman from New York, both to strengthen the institution in the pivotal role it is playing in the global debt crisis and to make it more salable to Congress.

"I happen to believe that the staff of this institution is a remarkable asset in the world of development," Mr. Conable said recently. "But there have been expressions of lack of confidence, or at least of uncertainty about efficiency."

"I feel it's important that we restructure it and to the extent necessary we restructure it and change the procedures to be sure we are meeting today's expectations and proving adequately responsive to the challenges that face us."

The streamlining, engineered with the assistance of the New York-based management consulting firm of Cress, McCormick & Paget, is similar to, although perhaps not as dramatic as, that undertaken by a number of large corporations. American Telephone & Telegraph Co., for instance, recently announced the layoff of 27,000 workers.

Many outsiders are hailing the See BANK, Page 13

U.S. Retail Sales
Increased 4.4%
In DecemberBy Martin Crutsinger
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Retail sales in the United States, aided by last-minute Christmas shopping and automobile sales, rose a near-record 4.4 percent in December, the government reported Wednesday.

The Commerce Department said that retail sales totaled a seasonally adjusted \$126.26 billion last month after a revised 0.6 percent decline from an originally reported growth of 0.5 percent, in November.

The department's report is based on a sampling of selected businesses and is subject to change.

December's increase was the largest since a record 5.6 percent jump in September that was spurred by a rush to take advantage of cut-rate auto financing offered to reduce a huge backlog of unsold 1986-model cars.

The retail sales figures have been influenced heavily in recent months by auto sales. After rising at a record rate in September, total sales fell a record 5.2 percent in October after the financing incentives were discontinued.

November's weakness was blamed on a 3.4 percent decline in auto sales, while they rose by 16.2 percent in December, the best

showing since the record 22.7 percent increase in September.

Even excluding autos, retail sales did well in December, rising by 0.9 percent. That was the best showing for the non-auto category since a 1 percent rise in July 1985.

Much of this strength came in the category that includes department stores, where sales rose 1.3 percent, the best monthly showing since a 1.5 percent rise in August.

Retail sales in October-December were 0.2 percent below those in the year's third quarter.

For all of 1986, retail sales totaled \$1.44 trillion. That was a 5.2 percent rise from 1985, when sales rose by 6.3 percent, but the lowest annual increase since a 3.0 percent rise in the recession year of 1982.

Sales of durable goods, those expected to last three years or more, were up 10.2 percent in December after a 2 percent decline in November.

Sales on nondurable goods were up 0.8 percent.

Guinness Chief
Is Dismissed

Reuters

LONDON — Guinness PLC, the British brewing company, on Wednesday dismissed its chairman and chief executive and asked two more directors to resign in a growing debate over the company's conduct of a takeover battle.

The company said it had severed all contact with chairman and chief executive, Ernest Saunders, who last week took a leave of absence during a government inquiry into the company's actions during its \$2.7 billion (\$4 billion) takeover of Distillers Co., a gin and Scotch whisky maker, last April.

The company also requested the resignations of directors Arthur Furrer, chairman of the Swiss Bank, Leu AG, and Thomas Ward, an American lawyer.

In filling the two vacancies, which require Senate confirmation, Mr. Reagan will have named six of the seven Fed governors, with Mr. Volcker the only exception.

Choices Reported for Federal Reserve Vacancies

By Robert D. Hershey Jr.
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Leif H. Olsen, formerly the top economist at Citibank, and Edward W. Kelley, an investment adviser from Texas, seem likely to be chosen to fill the two vacancies on the Federal Reserve Board, government and business sources said Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the prospects appear to have dimmed that Beryl W. Sprinkel, chairman of the president's Council of Economic Advisors, would be chosen to succeed Paul A. Volcker, whose term as Fed chairman expires in August.

Donald T. Regan, the White House chief of staff, was said to be heavily promoting Mr. Sprinkel for the post, but the odds against him seem to have lengthened in recent days, according to one official.

Mr. Olsen's selection would mark something of a departure from the pattern set by President Ronald Reagan in choosing five Fed governors, four of whom still serve. Mr. Olsen, 60, who retired from Citibank last year, has a reputation as a monetarist while Mr. Regan's other appointees have, to a greater or lesser degree, exhibited supply-side tendencies.

Monetarists tend to worry more than supply-siders about inflation and therefore are inclined toward a more restrictive monetary policy.

Mr. Olsen, reached by telephone in New York, acknowledged that he was engaged in discussions with the White House, but said that "it is very tentative on both sides."

It was understood that, if he joined the board, he would take the seat of Henry C. Wallach, 72, who recently resigned because of poor health. His term expires next January, but Mr. Olsen would then be

eligible for reappointment to a full term of 14 years.

Mr. Olsen's selection also could mean that the administration has fewer options if it should decide not to reappoint Mr. Volcker as chairman. Some of those who apparently are the top candidates to become chairman are from New York, where Mr. Olsen has spent his working life. The law, in the name of geographic diversity, prohibits more than one board member from coming from one district.

But it seemed possible that Mr. Olsen, who lives in Connecticut, could be named to represent the First Federal Reserve District, consisting of the New England states.

New York and northern New Jersey are in the second district.

In contrast to Mr. Olsen, Mr. Kelley is relatively unknown. His principal supporter, however, is Treasury Secretary James A. Baker 3d, a fellow Texan and longtime friend. Mr. Kelley, 54, has been described in press accounts as a man with "growth-oriented" views.

Mr. Kelley is expected to replace Emmett J. Rice, whose resignation took effect Dec. 31. That seat expires in January 1990.

In filling the two vacancies, which require Senate confirmation, Mr. Reagan will have named six of the seven Fed governors, with Mr. Volcker the only exception.

Currency Rates

Cross Rates	Jan. 14	Jan. 13
American dollar	1.0000	1.0000
British pound	1.6425	1.6425
French franc	6.5596	6.5596
German mark	1.9364	1.9364
Italian lira	2.3667	2.3667
Japanese yen	163.89	163.89
Netherlands guilder	2.2037	2.2037
Swiss franc	1.4803	1.4803
Spanish peseta	166.64	166.64
Swedish krona	4.6656	4.6656
U.S. dollar	1.0000	1.0000

Changes in London and Zurich, rates in other European centers. New York rates of 2 P.M. (a) Commercial bank; (b) Amounts needed to buy one pound; (c) Amounts needed to buy one dollar; (d) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (e) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (f) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (g) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (h) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (i) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (j) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (k) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (l) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (m) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (n) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (o) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (p) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (q) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (r) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (s) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (t) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (u) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (v) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (w) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (x) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (y) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (z) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (aa) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (ab) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (ac) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (ad) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (ae) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; (af) Units of 100 U.S. dollars; 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The Associated Press
LONDON — Caterpillar Tractor Co., the U.S.-based world's largest manufacturer of heavy construction equipment, said Wednesday it would close its Glasgow plant, with the loss of 1,221 jobs, as part of "further consolidation" to reduce costs and improve efficiency.

The Glasgow plant produces one model of tractor, plus parts and components for other machines. In September, Caterpillar announced a \$90 million investment to modernize the plant, with the intention of making it the company's biggest in Europe. The British government promised substantial cash aid, thought to be about \$9 million.

Wednesday's AMEX 3pm

Via The Associated Press

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div. Yld. PE	52 Week High	52 Week Low	3PM	Open	Close
12M	100	90	AMEX	1.5	110	90	100	100	100
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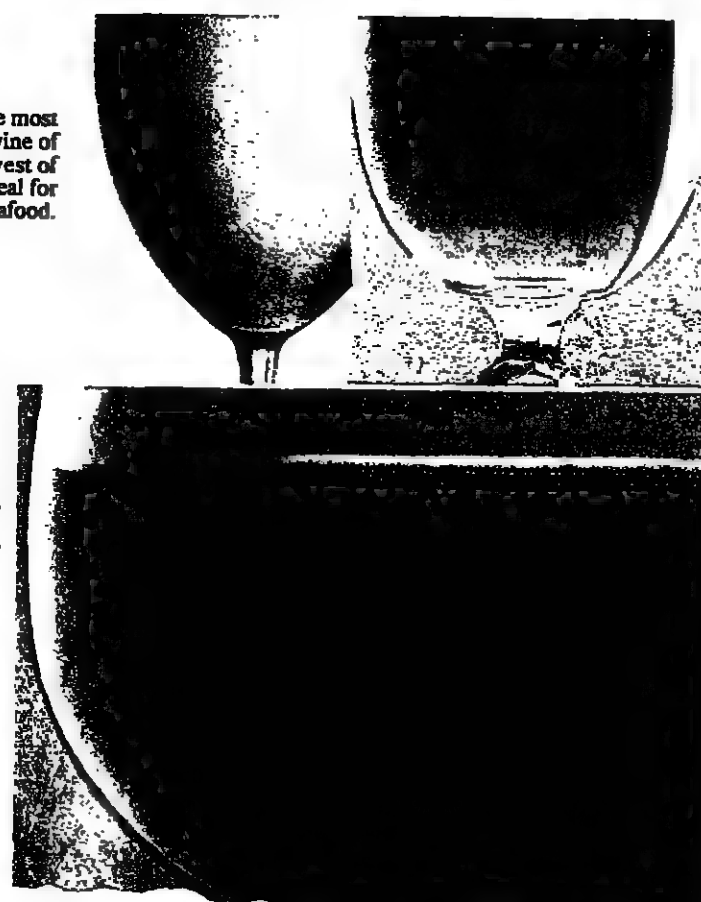
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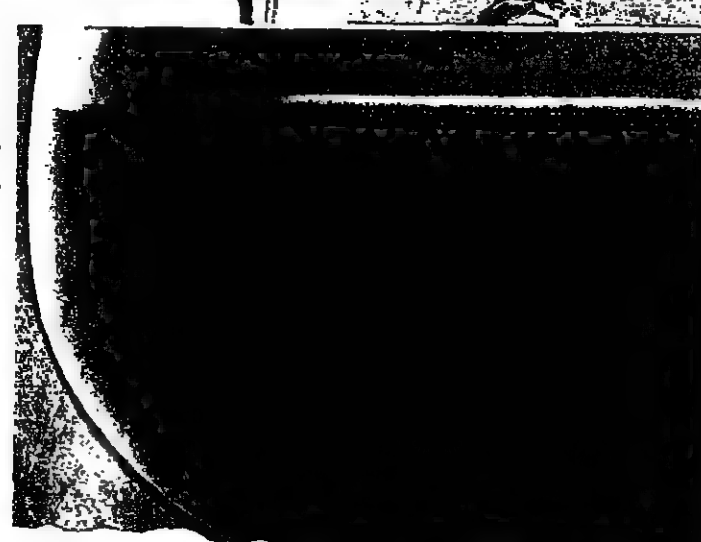
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Everything in red and white.



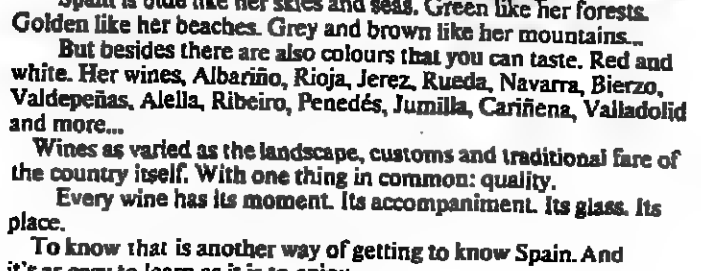
Albariño. The most aristocratic wine of the Northwest of Spain. Ideal for seafood.



Rioja. Most famous of Spanish wines. The reds are perfect with meat. It makes a good appetitive.



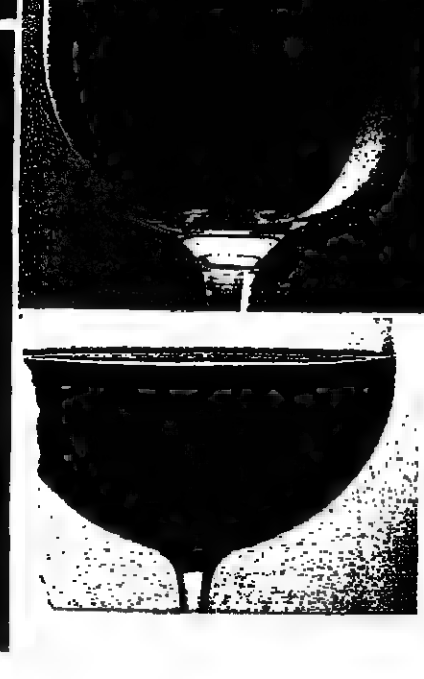
Navarra. Its rosé is soft and fruity. Excellent quality. Ideal with rice, eggs, pasta and meat.



Cava del Penedès. More than a century of tradition and internationally reputed. Goes with dessert or meals.



Alella. Typical from Barcelona province, praised by the Roman emperors. Highly recommended with fish.



Jerez (Sherry). The varieties "Fino", "Amontillado", "Manzanilla" and "Palo Cortado" are ideal for the appetitive.



Cariñena. Its alcohol content can reach 15%. Very strong aroma, excellent bouquet and body. Matchless with game.

